

ONGOING

University of Michigan School of Social Work

Summer 2014



M | SOCIAL WORK

HELP MOVE THE
WORLD FORWARD
EVERYONE A VICTOR

#1

SSW RANKED
IN THE NATION

BY U.S. NEWS &
WORLD REPORT

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2014

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FROM THE DEAN

Today, a shifting economy poses a significant challenge to School of Social Work MSW students, who come with a commitment to improve our world, and gain the skills to do so. Many also leave encumbered by their educational debt. But you have the ability to turn the dream of a quality education into solid reality.

An affordable education has always been part of the SSW mission. That's why student support is our top priority during the campaign. Scholarships ensure that we are financially able to recruit the highest quality students.

I want to introduce you to some of SSW's current scholarship recipients. These students are already making an impact on vulnerable populations including the elderly, foster youth and hospital patients being treated for physical and mental health issues.

Corey O' Neill (MSW '14), featured on page 8, is an exemplar of scholarship at work. Corey grew up in the foster system and is pursuing his MSW with a concentration in Children and Youth in Families and Society. His career plans include counseling youth in the foster system.

Another recipient is Katharina Diessel (MSW '14), one of 12 students who comprise the inaugural cohort of the Integrated Health Scholarship Program. It's a fast-growing field, and Katharina is excited to be part of such a broad transformation. "I've always believed in the mind-body connection," says Diessel. "Integrated healthcare is a holistic approach that looks at the whole person in order to gain a deeper understanding of their individual experience. It's a humane approach that brings a collaborative spirit to the healthcare setting."

Katrina Dale (MSW '14) is a Geriatric Scholarship recipient; prior to studying at our School of Social Work, she was a group unit leader at a psychosocial rehabilitation center. Katrina says



the Geriatric Scholarship has provided her with the ability to focus wholly on academics and her future work in gerontology, rather than on a heavy financial burden.

Corey, Katharina and Katrina are future social work leaders, innovators and visionaries. Your financial support provides these outstanding students the tools to achieve the extraordinary. To learn more about the campaign see page 2 or ssw.umich.edu/give. **M**

Sincerely

Laura Lein, Dean
Katherine Reebel Collegiate Professor
of Social Work
Professor of Anthropology



Corey O' Neill,
MSW '14



Katharina Diessel,
MSW '14



Katrina Dale, MSW '14

THE MICHIGAN CAMPAIGN



EVERYONE A VICTOR

At the University of Michigan School of Social Work, we have the passion, intelligence and drive to change the world.

What began in 1921 as a bachelor's degree offered in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts has grown into one of the world's preeminent schools of social work, leading the profession in teaching, research, innovation, collaboration and service.

Working on society's most pressing problems is challenging, and with your support, the School of Social Work can formulate new approaches to poverty, homelessness, mental illness, violence toward children and addiction. This is our legacy and our future and we invite you to be a part of our continuing work.

The Victors Michigan Campaign will unite the University of Michigan community to address the challenges facing our nation and the world. The School of Social Work joins the Michigan Campaign to advance our vision to prepare the next generation of Social Work professionals to change the world.

The School of Social Work aspires to make the world a better place through the research discoveries of our faculty and the talents and contributions of our students and graduates. Your financial support of the School of Social Work through the Victors Michigan Campaign will help ensure a world of promise, strengthening our ability to Reach Out, Raise Hope and Change Society.

“Our goal at the University of Michigan School of Social Work is for everyone to be a victor. Together we can build partnerships, enhance collaborations and work toward new solutions. Your financial support helps ensure a world of promise, strengthening our ability to Reach Out, Raise Hope and Change Society.”

Laura Lein, Dean



VICTORS FOR MICHIGAN

OUR PRIORITIES FOR THE NEXT DECADE:

PROVIDE

critical scholarship support to students who have the passion, intellect and drive to change the world.

TRANSFORM

the social work practice through innovative research.

IMPROVE

the quality of life for vulnerable populations.

RECRUIT AND MENTOR

faculty, students and researchers who represent the diversity of our global community.



WE ASK YOU TO JOIN US.

Your gift will enable us to continue to lead the profession in teaching, research, innovation, collaboration and service. For information on how you can participate and make a difference, contact the School of Social Work Development Office.

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SSW.UMICH.EDU/GIVE





CASC MINOR

HARNESSEES AMBITION FOR COMMUNITY ACTION

University of Michigan junior Hanan Yahya is working toward completing her degree in International Studies with a minor in Urban Studies and Community Action and Social Change (CASC) with a goal toward serving her hometown, Detroit and homeland, Yemen.

As valedictorian in her Detroit high school, Universal Academy, Yahya came to U-M with an already impressive resume of community organizing experience ranging from student government to ACCESS (Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services), the largest Arab American human services nonprofit in the United States.

“My family taught me the virtue of giving back to the community and being a good citizen, Yahya said. “I broke cultural norms to do the work I do, and I love it.”

Her community action involvement expanded considerably once she came to the Ann Arbor campus where she became an active member of the Muslim Students’ Association, a fellow of the Barger Leadership Institute, and became further involved with community advocacy among the Arab American community.

Her enthusiasm grew with each endeavor. In 2013, through U-M’s Semester in Detroit program, she created a resource guide for the Chadsey-Condon Community Organization to improve awareness of services for community residents and supported youth employment programs.

The School of Social Work provides grant and scholarship resources for students enrolled in the MSW program.

Awards are made on the basis of demonstrated financial need and/or merit. Nearly 70 percent of all MSW students receive a grant or scholarship award.

- » Need-based Scholarships and Grants
- » Graduate Student Staff Assistantships
- » Dean’s Mission Scholarship
- » Merit Scholarships
- » Special Program Scholarships:
 - Child Welfare Scholarship Program
 - Clinical Scholars Program
 - Community-Based Initiative in Detroit
 - Geriatric Scholarship Program
 - Global Activities Scholars Program
 - Integrated Health Scholarship Program
 - Jewish Communal Leadership Program
 - National Community Scholars Program
 - Peace Corps Master’s International
 - Peace Corps Paul D. Coverdell Program
- » Donor Scholarships
- » Federal Loans and Work-Study

Your support of scholarships and fellowships ensures that all qualified students, regardless of their economic circumstances, can attend without incurring crushing debt.

“My family taught me the virtue of giving back to the community and being a good citizen. I broke cultural norms to do the work I do, and I love it.”



Hanan Yahya, Community Action and Social Change student

She went on to become a Comcast Digital Connectors Instructor for two years to empower a class of 25 students of Arab American background in an intensive program to teach advanced digital skills and develop the students into strong community leaders.

"I'm one of nine children and the community outreach path I chose was new to my family and not immediately embraced," Yahya said. "I want to represent my culture on campus and I had to prove to my family that I could do this. My mom was the first to accept my path when she saw me grow and heard from other people about the work I was doing.... I made her proud."

Yahya also is involved with ACCESS JIRAN as a youth dialogue coordinator where she works with youth from three different Detroit neighborhoods to engage young people in dialogue about different cultures and dismantle myths through productive conversations.

"We teach the youth how to talk with one another and resolve issues through conversation and understanding," Yahya said.

On campus, she continues to work as a facilitator in the Summer Youth Dialogues program through the Program on Intergroup Relations and the School of Social Work.

“I love my CASC classes and I couldn’t do all of this without the help of scholarships, which allow me to complete my degree and continue to do community outreach.”

As president of the Michigan chapter of the American Association of Yemeni Students and Professionals, Yahya and her board promoted higher education and progress in the Yemeni American community.

"Hanan's ability to balance her academic work and her dedication to social justice work is impressive and we're fortunate to have her in the CASC minor program," said Alice Mishkin, MSW '13, CASC program coordinator.

Yahya is currently working for the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, the largest Arab American grassroots organization committed to protecting civil rights, promoting mutual understanding, and preserving the Arab American cultural heritage.

This summer Yahya will be conducting research on the educational system in Yemen and studying advanced Arabic.

"I love my CASC classes and I couldn't do all of this without the help of scholarships, which allow me to complete my degree and continue to do community outreach," Yahya said.

She has a variety of scholarships including KFC Colonel Scholar; Skillman Foundation Scholar GE-Ronald Reagan Scholar; Comcast Leaders and Achiever; Detroit Rotary Club Youth Citizen; WXYZ Brightest and Best Graduate and the Chadsey-Condon Community Scholar.

Yahya has aspirations to eventually go to law school.

"There's a lot of power and skills I'm gaining now to make change," she said. "I'll always be a community organizer and the CASC program is a great build toward applying that with the application of law." **M**

BOUNDARIES AND BALANCE LEAD TO UNDERSTANDING

Adriana Aldana, MSW '07, PhD '14 grew up in southern California with plenty of sunshine and a strong sense of civic accountability.

In fact, Aldana took her responsibility of social change involvement so seriously, she pursued a doctoral degree to research and better understand the relationship between racism awareness and civic engagement among young people.

"Adolescents are at an age of exploration; it's important to reach kids when they're younger because this is a time in their lives when they're most open to an inclusive way of thinking," Aldana explained. "Our research shows thinking critically and working across differences is the key to working collaboratively, and that begins with an early understanding of those differences."

Intergroup dialogues, similar to small groups, are an innovative approach to teaching young people civic competencies to better understand racism and inequality. With intergroup dialogues there is an effort to balance the makeup of the groups composed by gender or race.

“This is the first time many of these students spend time outside of their community and this project disrupts racial segregation.”



Adrian Aldana, MSW '07, PhD '14, Social Work and Psychology

This approach gives the students a safe place to speak and think about racial differences. We establish ground rules to set expectations for cross-cultural communication, because talking about issues related to race and ethnicity can be a breeding ground for conflict. It takes a skilled facilitator to read the group dynamic, probe participants to unpack how they have been socialized to think about race relations, and keep the process headed in a productive direction.

Aldana's research has been looking at the effects of social justice education on youth's sociopolitical development. Her focus is the role of race-based critical pedagogy among young people and how it helps them understand their role in the world, ultimately encouraging them to become critically conscious and active citizens.

A goal of her community practice has been to empower youth to challenge racial injustice in their communities. During the past two summers Aldana managed the Youth Dialogues on Race and Ethnicity, which brings together nearly 60 high-school-aged youth from diverse ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds from across the metropolitan Detroit region. The key criteria is that the participants represent the racial and ethnic groups that make up the various communities represented. The program includes students who have a broad range of experiences, not all athletes, not all high achieving students, and not all student council members.

"This is the first time many of these students spend time outside of their community and this project disrupts racial segregation," Aldana said. "It brings the students together and gives them a safe place to speak; at the same time they learn about and from people who are different from themselves."

According to Aldana, it's difficult for people at all age levels to engage in dialogue about race and racism. High school students have less life experience than adults, but by the end of Youth Dialogues on Race and Ethnicity program, the students begin to show much more critical thinking about race, stereotypes and inequality.

During the first three weeks of the program, the students talk about their own identity in racially/ ethnically homogenous caucus groups. After the initial caucus group dialogues, the groups are paired with another caucus group to create a racially/ ethnically diverse intergroup. Participants also take a daylong bus tour of metropolitan Detroit to visit places with a significant cultural meaning; locations included a church where Martin Luther King, Jr. practiced a civil rights speech, an inner-city wall built to segregate Brewster Park, the Arab American Museum and an Asian American Art exhibition hosted at an affluent suburban public library.

Following their community tours, the intergroups discuss bigger racial issues affecting their communities, including racial segregation and educational inequality. The groups are led by undergraduate students to provide guidelines and experiential learning activities that help foster discussions within the groups.

Aldana has been responsible for teaching the curriculum to the facilitators, reviewing the notes resulting from the group discussions and providing guidance and preparation for the following dialogue session.

"This is a learning experience for everyone involved," Aldana said. "White students learn more

about their privilege and process their feelings of white guilt. Students of color learn how to voice their concerns so that they can be heard....it's typically the marginalized group [in an intergroup setting] that tends to be more quiet, but together all of the students learn how to give voice to their own experience."

The summer program was a successful inspiration for more than just the students in the program. The Youth Dialogues on Race and Ethnicity led to an offshoot program resulting in an adaptive high school program in Farmington Hills, Michigan for high school students in that community. The Farmington Hills program began as a youth-developed after-school program, and later became an elective course within the high school curriculum. Aldana's dissertation focused on assessing the effects of the high school dialogue course on students' racism awareness and civic engagement.

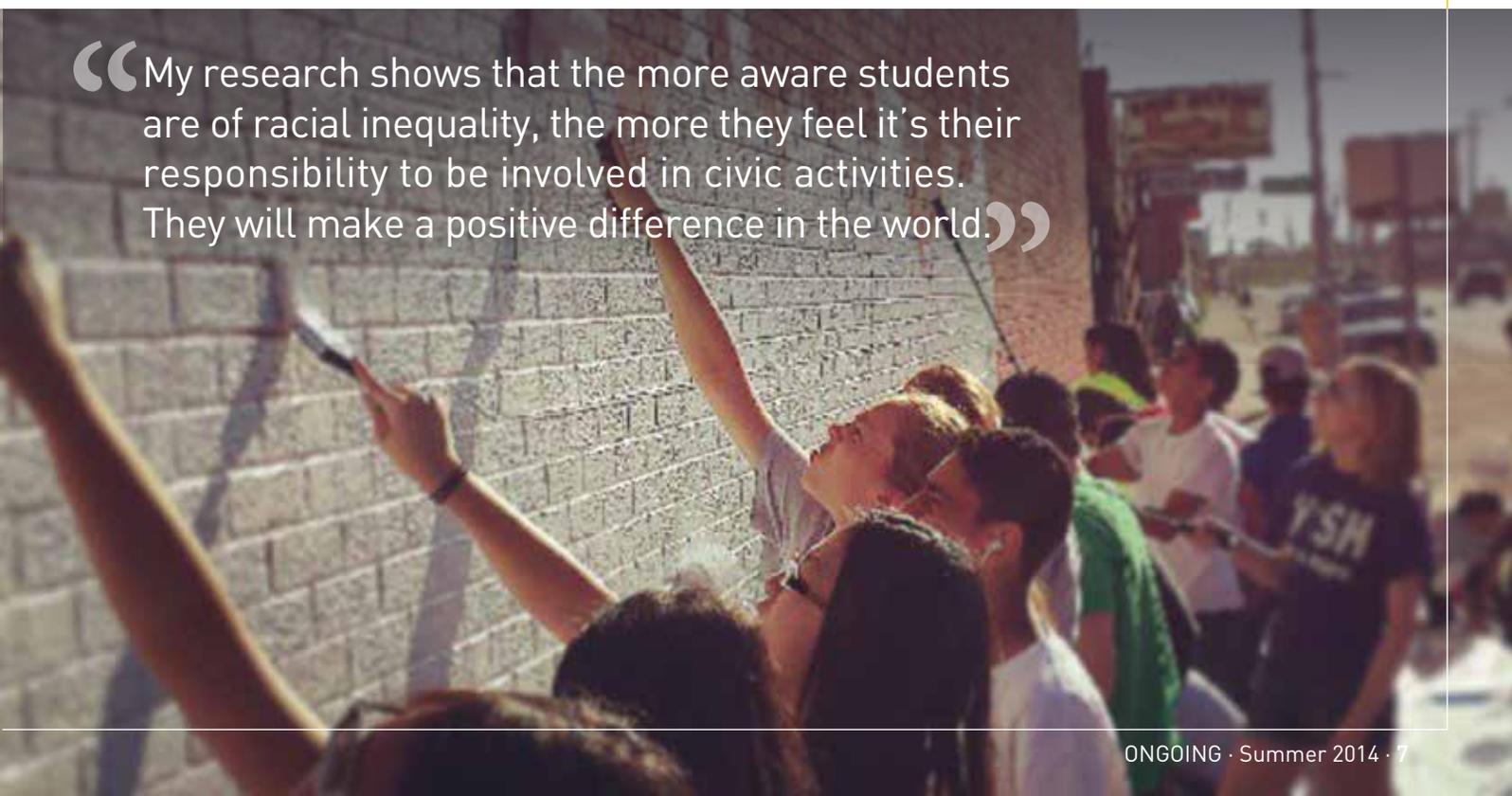
"I want to teach students how to build coalitions for social change because I believe there is power in numbers and it's important to work with people who are different from you. Thinking critically and working across differences is key to social change."

Aldana's hope is that the young people participating in her program who may go into business, education and politics will grow up to be a more racially inclusive generation. She's confident that her students are open to having difficult conversations and very capable of encouraging a collective decision making process.

"My research shows that the more aware students are of racial inequality, the more they feel it's their responsibility to be involved in civic activities. They will make a positive difference in the world."

Adriana Aldana successfully defended her dissertation entitled "Youth Civic Engagement: Sociopolitical Development in Schools with Lessons from and for Multicultural Education." Her committee consisted of Barry Checkoway and Stephanie Rowley as co-chairs, along with Michael Spencer and Lorraine Gutiérrez.

Adriana has accepted a postdoctoral fellowship in Policy and Urban Planning at the University of California, Irvine. **M**



“My research shows that the more aware students are of racial inequality, the more they feel it's their responsibility to be involved in civic activities. They will make a positive difference in the world.”

ADVOCACY IN ACTION

CHILD WELFARE SCHOLAR
COREY O'NEILL



Corey O'Neill, U-M MSW candidate, December '14

Placed in foster care as an adolescent, Corey O'Neill encountered many of the problems plaguing the system: poverty, neglect and abuse.

But his experience — which included incarceration at the age of 17 — motivated him to change the course of his trajectory. He earned his high school diploma while in prison and, after being released, found a job and pursued a college education.

O'Neill was accepted into the University of Michigan, where he earned his undergraduate degree in psychology. He credits U-M alumni Paul and Amy Blavin, founders of the Blavin Scholarship, for making the commitment to his success in college. The scholarship provides financial assistance and a community of support to undergraduate students who have been part of the foster care system.

"I came from a background where going to college was not an option," says O'Neill. "Not even an idea. As a former foster care youth, I had a lot of misconceptions about what college was like. Mr. Blavin is a very hands-on donor, and he was personally invested in seeing me succeed. Once I got involved in the program, I found my calling."

Through the Blavin Scholars program, O'Neill discovered his talent for public speaking, and found a platform from which to tell others about his experience in the foster care system. The School of Social Work took notice of his passionate advocacy for current and former foster care youths and encouraged him to pursue his MSW. For O'Neill, it was the opportunity to fulfill his dream of changing lives.

“We’re talking about saving children’s lives. What could be more rewarding than that?”

"Foster care youth is a population of young people who can't speak for themselves, and without social workers, they'd have no one to do it for them," said O'Neill. "I know firsthand what they face. I was in foster care 20 years ago and a lot has changed for the good, but I want to do more to bring about significant change in these young people's lives."

O'Neill became the first Blavin Fellowship recipient among School of Social Work graduate students. He also was awarded a Child Welfare Scholarship, one of only 10 given each year.

DISSERTATION DEFENSE

"I'm so fortunate to be learning from the pioneers in this field through the Child Welfare Scholars program," says O'Neill.

"Abused children are a very sensitive population and it takes very special people to teach and work in this field. Robert Ortega, a child welfare professor, has a true gift for presenting child maltreatment in a delicate manner while also teaching us how to handle it effectively. The focus of this scholarship is on abuse and neglect, and that adds a human element that you're not likely to find in other degrees or programs."

Committed to improving the lives and educational outcomes of youth who come through the foster care system, O'Neill cites statistics that keep him focused on his goal: only 10 percent of foster care youth who finish high school go on to pursue a secondary education; 2 percent actually complete their studies and earn a degree; and roughly 60 percent of foster care male youth will be incarcerated.

"This is an underrepresented population that is in dire need of help."

O'Neill is already doing that in his field placement through the Child Welfare Scholarship program at SUDDS (Stop Underage Drinking/Drugs Downriver) Coalition Guidance Center. O'Neill advocates for youth at the community level, organizing and facilitating town hall meetings that educate youth, parents and others in the community about the effects and consequences of underage drinking and substance abuse. He says he wants to continue working with youth and use his experience at SUDDS as a launching pad for something bigger in his career.

"We're talking about saving children's lives," he says. "What could be more rewarding than that?" **M**

Written by Anne Farris



ADRIANA ALDANA
Social Work and Psychology

Youth Civic Engagement: Sociopolitical Development in Schools with Lessons from and for Multicultural Education

Adriana has accepted a postdoctoral fellowship in policy and urban planning at the University of California, Irvine.



KATE RENDLE
Social Work and Anthropology

Negotiating Uncertainty: Risk, Responsibility, and the Unsettled Facts of HPV Vaccination in the United States

Kate has accepted a postdoctoral fellowship at the NIH/National Cancer Institute, Cancer Prevention Program.



CHARLES GRAHAM
Social Work and Psychology

Assessing "Illness" through the Lenses of Choice, Cognition, and Context: Implications for Marginal Men in Residential Treatment

Charles has accepted a postdoctoral fellowship/clinical instructorship through the Department of Psychiatry and Social Work Addiction Treatment Services Division, University of Michigan.



KERRI L. NICOLL
Social Work and Political Science

Keeping Our Heads Above Water: Rethinking Need and Participation in Public Anti-poverty Programs

Kerri has accepted an assistant professor of social work position at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts.



KRISTEN ELMORE
Social Work and Psychology

Improving Academic Effort and Achievement Among Low-Income Minority Youth Using Small-Scale Interventions

Kristen has accepted a three-year research scientist postdoctoral fellowship at Columbia Teachers College, New York, NY.

PASSION LEADS TO SUCCESS WITH GENDER STUDIES

There's always room for improvement...and research on the mental health of black men is no exception. Daphne C. Watkins, PhD, assistant professor of social work and president of the American Men's Studies Association (AMSA), is diligently working to advance men's studies as an academic discipline.

"I teach my students that research is 'me search.' If we embrace this fact, then it can help us shed light on what makes each of us who we are," Watkins explained. "I grew up seeing very different gender roles in my community, even within my own family, and I wanted to understand why we hold ourselves to such tight gender roles, especially if it means our health and happiness are at risk."

Watkins grew up in a racially and economically diverse community in the Tidewater region of Virginia, where she was exposed to a number of different mental and emotional challenges held by both men and women. For example, despite the physical presence of many of the boys and men from her community, they were not always emotionally present in their families.

“Passion is often the driving force behind our efforts and our success...what you care about is what gives you an edge in life...and it should not matter if you are a man or a woman.”

“My family relationships were the beginning of my interest in men’s health, particularly black men’s depression.

I wanted to understand why men (who are experiencing poorer health because they feel bounded by society’s gender roles) don’t push against the boundaries set by society,” Watkins said.

For the past decade, Watkins has had a passion and a hunger for understanding men’s mental health, and she’s quick to note how happy she is to see that many of the men from her hometown have made some progress with understanding the link between their adherence to gender roles and their emotional health.

“I love going back home because the changing times have resulted in my community being more open-minded to doing what makes you happy — regardless of whether it is traditionally a man’s responsibility or a woman’s responsibility. Through my men’s studies lens, I have enjoyed being able to assess how differently our family relationships are now compared to how they were when I was a child,” Watkins said.

Men’s studies is an academic discipline that has been in existence since the early 1970s, and in spite of AMSA’s two decades of the critical study of men and masculinities, Watkins is the first woman and person of color to be president. Despite this, Watkins is quick to point out that research in the field of men’s studies has increased exponentially, and that the discipline is moving from a developmental stage of an innovative, non-traditional academic field to one of extensive research and broader understanding.

“AMSA brings together scholars of a variety of disciplines...medicine, law, humanities and social sciences... to examine men’s studies from a broad perspective and identify the strengths and weaknesses of how we have understood boys and men in the past, and how we plan to address this understanding in the future to improve their lives,” Watkins said.

Her current projects focus on black men’s depression and the benefits of online interventions. The online approach is in response to the large numbers of men who don’t regularly see their primary care physicians or seek help for physical or mental

health issues. Technology and social media are used as a resource provided to create some needed, and trusted, information online.

“Our research focuses on mental health and how masculinities can be both an advantage and a disadvantage in addressing mental health outcomes,” Watkins said.

Watkins’ work is also beginning to transition from educating the scientific community to a focus on community-based interventions.

Research shows that social scientists and practitioners often talk about mental health with terminology that is not always defined the same for everyone, and as a result, researchers are working to develop terminology which will be relevant to end users.

“Passion is often the driving force behind our efforts and our success...what you care about is what gives you an edge in life...and it should not matter if you are a man or a woman,” Watkins said. “As a scholar of men’s studies, all of us benefit from more research in this field.” **M**



U-M SSW Assistant Professor Daphne Watkins, PhD



RESEARCH LAUNCHED: PRISON REENTRY IN DETROIT

Reuben Miller is an active academic. Even though he is a relative newcomer to U-M SSW faculty, he has wasted no time digging into his field of study where he broadly examines criminal justice and social welfare policy, race and ethnic relations and poverty in the United States and abroad.

Not only is he teaching, publishing and participating in community involvement, but he recently launched a new research project to follow the lives of former prisoners as they attempt to reenter their home communities.

"I want to capture the experiences of the those who transition home from prison. This is important given the recent implementation of the ACA [the Affordable Care Act], where many former prisoners will have access to health and mental health services for the first time," Miller said.

The research, which is designed to understand reentry over the life course, will examine the interactions of a broad age group ranging from 18 to 70 years old.

“There are alternative models for how states can manage reentry. When social workers have a voice in criminal justice issues, and in the courts, and in policy decision making, we’ll likely have better criminal justice outcomes.”

Miller is an ethnographer. His work explores former prisoners' interactions during the process of prisoner reentry. He seeks to unpack the ways in which they navigate the barriers they face and the role their families, friends and the community-based organizations that serve them play in their transition home.

Based on decades of experience and research, Miller anticipates there will be a variation of outcomes, and hopes to use the experiences of former prisoners in Detroit to inform criminal justice and social welfare policy.

Since the 1980s, incarceration has increased by more than 500 percent. Miller attributes this to public policy decisions and how the United States manages poor populations.

Miller wants to "bring social workers back in" to discussions about criminal justice policy, rehabilitation and sentencing.

"There are alternative models for how states can manage reentry," Miller said. "When social workers have a voice in criminal justice issues, and in the courts, and in policy decision making, we'll likely have better criminal justice outcomes."

The incarceration rate began to decline for the first time in 2009, which Miller attributes to changing crime policies. "Reducing, for example, the cocaine crack disparity makes me optimistic. So do states endeavors to depopulate their prisons, even if they are mostly motivated by fiscal concerns. But we've seen an expansion of the carceral state with prison-like conditions in non-punitive institutions such as schools with metal detectors and police officers in hospitals," Miller said. "We still see the poor, particularly poor members of racial and ethnic minority groups, increasingly criminalized through policy mechanisms."



U-M SSW Assistant Professor Reuben Miller, PhD

What's the answer to this dilemma? Miller says "We have to bring social work back in."

According to Miller, social workers were overwhelmingly involved in prisoner rehabilitation inside and outside of prison. They served as probation officers and often ran the day-to-day operations of prisoner aid societies. Social workers understood this to be a central part of their work.

Miller said, "There was even a National Conference on Charities and Corrections, which would later become the National Conference on Social Welfare, an early precursor to our many large social work organizations. This was before the rise of the 'tough on crime' era, which called for more punitive crime control policies and the 'what works' movement, which challenged the effectiveness of social work interventions in prisons."

Miller argues that social work was effectively pushed out of discussions of criminal justice policy and practice. "A more punitive logic has guided criminal justice and social welfare policy for the last few decades. Rehabilitation and other forms of state intervention to improve the lives of the criminalized poor have been whittled away.

"My hope is that through my research and the important work of others, we can relay some of the experiences of former prisoners and their families in a way that honors their depth and complexity, informing the design of more humane criminal justice policy and practices going forward." **M**

**INCARCERATIONS
INCREASED MORE THAN**

500%

NATIONALLY SINCE 1980s

ANSWERING BIG QUESTIONS ABOUT LITTLE KIDS REQUIRES BIG DATA

Big Data refers to the collection and analysis of large complex data systems.

In 2012 the White House announced the Big Data Research and Development Initiative as a means to solving government problems. Today, researchers at the University of Michigan's School of Social Work are using a similar approach to help support children and families associated with foster care and juvenile justice systems.

"Using evidence to help inform policy and practice decisions on the ground is the best approach to help children and families in the foster care and juvenile justice systems," said Associate Professor Joseph Ryan, MSW '96. "Unfortunately, analysis of existing evidence is complicated because the data are often collected and managed by distinct organizations with distinct missions. Privacy concerns also limit data sharing. The end result is silos of critical data."

Hopefully that's about to change as data sharing becomes a focus for one of Ryan's newest partnerships with the state of Michigan. The goal of this endeavor is to better understand how children and families move through the social service systems in a way that helps the state plan for the future.

More often than not, data are analyzed as point-in-time estimates. This is useful in understanding how many youth exit the foster care system and return home or documenting how many adolescents are picked up on probation violations. In order to understand the variation in these events, such as which youth are most likely to return home, it's important to link up individual data and stretch it out over time to create longitudinal files for analysis. An emphasis of understanding is not only how many youth experience certain events or achieve specific milestones, but also understanding how these events vary across populations. This information is critical for targeting new interventions and developing effective and efficient policies and practices in the field.

"Many times the child is temporarily removed from an abusive or neglectful home, the family is provided services and the child is reunified with the biological parents," Ryan explained. "For some children, the system works pretty well, but for others, they come into care...and for a variety of factors, they remain in care for long periods of time. Developing and using a data archive can help agency partners figure which children are getting stuck in the system."

According to Ryan, the data can also be used to help identify which interventions are most successful in achieving desirable outcomes.

“We want to help the state of Michigan harness the power of data associated with youth in the foster care, juvenile justice and education [public school] systems,” Ryan said. “We need to dismantle the silo approach, share data across systems so that we can better understand how children and families move through systems. It’s reasonable to think that an adolescent’s involvement with the juvenile justice system might have an impact on his or her current foster care placement. Or that moving between foster homes might have an impact on how well a ten-year-old foster girl does in school. Without sharing data, we remain in the dark about these related events.”

Ryan anticipates that the analysis of overlapping system data will give social workers and policy makers a more comprehensive understanding of what is happening in families and a better sense of what’s working...and what isn’t working.

Ryan believes the creation of these data-sharing partnerships provides answers to what’s happening in the field.

“The university and state partnerships are ideal, because they capitalize on the collective expertise of the Department of Human Services (those working directly with the families) and the expertise of researchers at the University of Michigan.”

Ryan explains that each agency has its own structure and mission.



U-M SSW Associate Professor Joe Ryan, MSW '96, PhD

“Historically we haven’t witnessed many of these partnerships because the sharing of information wasn’t encouraged,” Ryan said. “There was little room for cross-system collaboration, but with improved data technologies, advances in statistically modeling and a recognition that we ought to be data driven in our decision making, I suspect we will see more states sharing data and developing long term partnerships with local universities.”

Ryan believes the end game for this work is simple. “This is all about using science to improve the lives of children and families in Michigan.” **M**

“We want to help the state of Michigan harness the power of data associated with youth in the foster care, juvenile justice and education (public school) systems.”





THE 2014 LEON AND JOSEPHINE WINKELMAN MEMORIAL LECTURE

CREATING SUSTAINABLE CHANGE FOR HEALTHY AGING

A warm welcome was extended by Dean Laura Lein to attendees of the 2014 Leon and Josephine Winkelman Memorial Lecture on February 13, at the University of Michigan School of Social Work.

The keynote address, *Creating Sustainable Change for Healthy Aging*, was presented by Nancy A. Whitelaw, co-director, Hartford Change AGENTS Initiative, Gerontological Society of America; and co-director, Practice Change Leaders Program, Division of Health Care Policy and Research, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.

Whitelaw emphasized the importance of organization and collaboration among key groups, which gives a greater voice to healthy aging.

A panelist response was moderated by U-M SSW Professor Letha A. Chadiha. The panelists included:

- Phillippa Clarke, Research Associate Professor, Institute for Social Research and Department of Epidemiology, University of Michigan
- Jeffrey B. Halter, Professor of Internal Medicine, U-M Medical School; and Director, Geriatrics Center at the University of Michigan
- Beth Spencer, Project Manager, Geriatric Social Work Hartford Center of Excellence, U-M School of Social Work; and clinical social worker at the U-M Geriatrics Center

The Leon and Josephine Winkelman Memorial Lecture Series was established at the University of Michigan School of Social Work by the Winkelman brothers — Stanley J., John, Frederick R. and Henry R. — as a memorial to their parents.

The lecture series provides a forum for the presentation of new and emerging knowledge from the social sciences and the helping professions in the field of gerontology, and for the discussion of the application of such knowledge to the development of social policy, the organization and management of social welfare services and the delivery of social work services.

The selection of topics and scholars reflects the interdisciplinary character of the series. This is in keeping with the representation of several disciplines in the School of Social Work faculty, the schools' links with the social sciences through its Joint Doctoral Program in Social Work and Social Science and the school's collaboration with the Schools of Public Health, the University of Michigan Health System and the Institute of Gerontology. **M**

From left to right:
Emily Nicklett, PhD;
Robert Taylor, PhD;
Phillippa Clarke, PhD;
Letha A. Chadiha, PhD;
Jeffrey B. Halter, MD;
Laura Lein, PhD;
Nancy A. Whitelaw, PhD;
Beth Spencer, LMSW;
Ruth E. Dunkle, PhD



SALUTING AN INNOVATOR

KATHLEEN COULBORN-FALLER'S RETIREMENT

Trailblazer. Tireless advocate. There are very few words that can accurately describe the depth of Dr. Kathleen Coulborn-Faller's contributions to the field of child welfare.

The Marion Elizabeth Blue Professor of Children and Families at the University of Michigan School of Social Work, Faller has done extensive research and written nine books and more than 90 journal articles on topics related to child welfare. She has conducted over 300 juried conference presentations at state, national and international conferences and presented more than 250 workshops. Faller has also served as Director of the Family Assessment Clinic since 1985, beginning at the School of Social Work and now located at Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County. Her research agenda has been extensive, most recently as the Principal Investigator on the University of Michigan site for the National Child Welfare Workforce Institute.

She has received two awards from the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, one for Outstanding Research Achievement and another for Outstanding Service. In 2010, she was presented with the University of Michigan School of Social Work Distinguished Faculty Award for her achievements in research and teaching. Faller has also received Lifetime Achievement Awards from the



U-M SSW Professor Kathleen Coulborn-Faller, PhD

National Children's Advocacy Center and the Michigan Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers.

Faller's retirement celebration at the School of Social Work honored her many accomplishments and contributions to the school. The event focused on Child Maltreatment and Children Coping with Trauma: Diverse Professional Perspectives. The symposium celebrated Faller's career and accomplishments and included guest speakers Professor Jon Conte from the University of Washington, Dolores Subia BigFoot from the University of Oklahoma and James Henry from Western Michigan University.

In reviewing Faller's book, *Interviewing Children about Sexual Abuse, Controversies and Best Practice*, David L. Chadwick, MD, Director Emeritus, Chadwick Center for Children & Families, Children's Hospital San Diego, says, "While change is to be expected in this field, a milestone is needed from time to time and this is such a work. This book belongs in every clinic, every Child Advocacy Center and every agency in which children may be interviewed about sexual abuse." **M**

Written by the U-M SSW Child Welfare Learning Community (CWLC)



FACULTY PROMOTIONS

Our alumni often describe how their lives were changed by a social work faculty member who inspired, taught, motivated or mentored them. Our faculty builds a sense of community that engages our students and alumni.

The School of Social Work is excited to celebrate some of our distinguished faculty members in times of professional transition. These faculty members are not only researchers and scholars but committed teachers, mentors and advisors to our MSW and PhD students. They are the key to our students' experience — educating, challenging and inspiring tomorrow's leaders in the profession.

PROMOTIONS

EDIE KIEFFER

PROMOTED TO PROFESSOR

Edie Kieffer's career focuses on understanding and addressing ethnic and geographic disparities in health. She has conducted extensive quantitative and qualitative research on the prevalence and correlates of maternal and child health, obesity

and diabetes. Using community-based participatory research approaches, she and her community partners have identified approaches to weight, diabetes, eating, and exercise among Latino and African American Detroit community residents.

SANDRA MOMPER

PROMOTED TO ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Sandy Momper's research interests include gambling, substance abuse, PTSD, mental health and health disparities among rural and urban American Indians. She is currently the lead evaluator working with the American Indian Health and Family Services of Southeast Michigan on several large federal grant projects. One of her projects is building a system of care to provide culturally and linguistically relevant mental health and substance abuse healing services to the American Indian community.

MARY RUFFOLO

PROMOTED TO PROFESSOR

Mary Ruffolo is committed to research addressing the needs of vulnerable populations served by the public systems. Her research activities address testing the effectiveness of interventions and services for at-risk populations and disseminating empirically supported interventions. Her current



From left to right:
Sandra Momper, PhD;
Edie Kieffer, PhD;
Mary Ruffolo, PhD; and
Luke Shaefer, PhD



SAVE THE DATE

research projects work with Medicaid consumers, youth living with bipolar disorders in Detroit and service recipients in community mental health settings. In addition to her teaching and research, Ruffolo is the Director of SSW's continuing education program. Under her leadership, SSW has piloted certificate programs taught by experts in emerging social work fields.

LUKE SHAEFER

PROMOTED TO ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Luke Shaefer's research focuses on the effectiveness of the United States social safety net in serving low-wage workers and economically disadvantaged families. His recent work explores rising levels of extreme poverty in the United States, the impact of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly Food Stamps) on material hardships, barriers to unemployment insurance faced by vulnerable workers and strategies for increasing access to oral health care in the United States.

TRANSITIONS

This coming fall we will also be saying farewell to two of our faculty who are pursuing new positions. While we will miss them, we look forward to continuing collaborations with them in their new positions and to the exciting work they will continue.

SEAN JOE

NEW POSITION

Congratulations to Sean Joe who has accepted an appointment as the Benjamin Youngdahl Professor of Social Work at the Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis.

MICHAEL WOODFORD

NEW POSITION

Congratulations to Michael Woodford on his new position as an associate professor with the Lyle S. Hallman faculty of social work at Wilfrid Laurier University in Kitchener, Ontario.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK HOMECOMING & REUNION WEEKEND

HONORING CLASS YEARS 1964, 1974, 1984, 1994, 2004

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31

ALL-CLASS REUNION LUNCH

12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Join Dean Lein, fellow alumni, students, and faculty for lunch, an update on the SSW and the presentation of Distinguished Alumni Awards.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK ART TOUR

1:45 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Enjoy a tour of the school's social justice-themed art collection.

MINI CLASS LECTURE

1:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

Relive your classroom days with a presentation by an SSW faculty.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1

HOMECOMING TAILGATE PARTY

12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Join Dean Lein and reconnect with former classmates while enjoying plenty of food, giveaways and school spirit. Transportation provided between SSW and the Big House.

HOMECOMING GAME VS. INDIANA

Kickoff at 3:30 p.m.

Cheer on your Wolverines! A limited number of tickets within the SSW block are available. **Get your tickets soon!**

\$75 each at mgoblue.com/tickets | Promo code: SOCIALWORK14

No cost to attend (additional cost for football tickets). All events (except Homecoming game) at the School of Social Work.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact the Office of Development & Alumni Relations at (734) 763-6886 or ssw.alumnioffice@umich.edu.

ADRIANA ALDANA (PhD) accepted a Postdoctoral Fellowship in Policy and Urban Planning at the University of California, Irvine.

ELIZABETH ARMSTRONG (PhD) and mentor **BETH GLOVER REED** received a grant from the U-M Rackham Graduate School for their work addressing alcohol and other drugs relationship to intimate partner violence.

BARRY CHECKOWAY blogged about “How to Recruit Black Students at the University of Michigan” in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*.

DAVID CÓRDOVA received an award from the Detroit Community Academic Urban Research Center for his project regarding the Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation.

DAVID CÓRDOVA published his article entitled “Do Parent-Adolescent Discrepancies in Family Functioning Increase the Risk of Hispanic Adolescent HIV Risk Behaviors?” in the journal *Family Process*.

DAVID CÓRDOVA'S paper, “An Application of the Complier Average Causal Effect Analysis to Examine the Effects of a Family Intervention in Reducing Illicit Drug Use among High-Risk Hispanic Adolescents,” was published in the March volume of *Family Process Journal*.

DAVID CÓRDOVA, along with colleagues Christopher Salas-Wright, Trennette Clark and Michael Vaughn, had their paper, “Profiles of Acculturation among Hispanics in the United States: Links with Discrimination and Substance Use,” accepted in *Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology*.

DAVID CÓRDOVA'S paper, “Family Functioning Trajectories and Substance Use and Misuse among Minority Urban Adolescents: A Growth Mixture Model,” was accepted for publication in *Substance Use and Misuse*. He also hosted a town hall for community members in Washtenaw County to voice their experiences and concerns related to mental health issues facing area youth.

DAVID CÓRDOVA, LAURA MOYNIHAN (MSW student) and **NICOLE WALLER**, (MPH student) published “Preventing Substance Abuse and HIV among Adolescents in a Primary Care Setting” in the *Journal of Substance Abuse and Alcoholism*.

DAVID CÓRDOVA and a team of SSW alumni and MSW students including **LAURA ALEXANDER** (MSW)

and alumni **KATE GUZMAN, CAITLIN MARTIN** and **CRAIG VANKEMPEN**, received first place from the MICHHR for their poster entitled “Here for Youth: Developing and Mobilizing a Community Advisory Board to Assess and Improve Mental Health Services for Adolescents.” Their research was presented at the 2014 Outreach, Partnerships & Implementation Science at the Michigan Institute for Clinical & Health Research symposium.

ADRIENNE DESSEL was honored by the Simmons School of Social Work Alumni Association for her article entitled “Intergroup Dialogue Courses on Sexual Orientation: Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Student Experiences and Outcomes,” published in the *Journal of Homosexuality*.

JORGE DELVA is a member of the Institute of Medicine and National Research Council planning committee on standards for benefit-cost analysis of preventive interventions for children, youth and families. The IOM/NRC recently released a report that summarizes the committee’s discussions on benefit-cost analysis.

JORGE DELVA and **MICHAEL SPENCER** were invited by the Department of Social Work, College of Ethnology and Sociology, South-Central University for Nationalities, Wuhan, China, to talk about social work practice in the U.S. and the various educational innovations taking place in the SSW, and to discuss opportunities for collaborations between the two social work programs.

JORGE DELVA and **SHIJIAN LI** (SSW alumni) were guest editors for a Special Issue in the *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* entitled “Substance and Drug Abuse Prevention.”

KATHLEEN FALLER and **ROBERT ORTEGA** received a TLTC grant to enhance school performance of marginalized and trauma-affected adolescents.

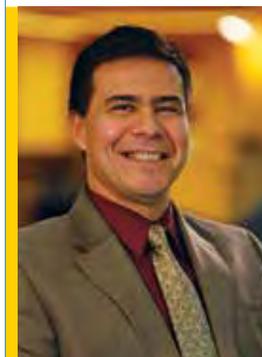
LARRY GANT was interviewed on NPR about providing opportunities for college students to get out of their classrooms and take what they’re learning and put it into practice in Detroit.

LARRY GANT received a grant from the U-M Center for Global and Intercultural Study for his work analyzing policies and services that affect civil societies and social justice.

LARRY GANT received an award from the U-M International Institute for his research in the ways social problems involving immigration, community



David Córdova



Jorge Delva



Larry Gant

redevelopment and human sex trafficking in urban areas are defined and addressed in cities such as Detroit, Berlin and Amsterdam.

LARRY GANT received an award from the U-M Center for Research on Learning and Teaching for his work to infuse place-based learning opportunities and coursework within two SSW courses (SW 503 & SW 528).

LARRY GANT received an award from the U.S. Department of Education via the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth for supplemental funds for Volunteers in Service to America.

BETH GLOVER REED was an invited presenter and facilitator at a research symposium on intimate partner violence screening and counseling, for the working session: "Trauma-Informed Screening Methods: Lessons from Behavioral Health Settings Including Alcohol and Substance Abuse." The National Library of Medicine and the Office of Research on Women's Health have created a web portal to serve as a central resource.

ANDREW GROGAN-KAYLOR'S qualitative research on Base-of-the-Pyramid (BoP) enterprises was published in the *Social Entrepreneurship Journal*.

ANDREW GROGAN-KAYLOR, along with colleagues Sandra Graham-Bermann, Maria Galano and Erin Hunter (Psychology), received an award from the U-M Rackham Graduate School for their work to develop and disseminate empirical knowledge about the efficacy of a Spanish-language intervention for Latino mothers and children exposed to violence.

ANDREW GROGAN-KAYLOR and **SHAWNA LEE'S** research on spanking was featured in the *Washington Post* and on CBS Detroit.

ANDREW GROGAN-KAYLOR and **SHAWNA LEE'S** research on spanking was featured in the *Washington Post* and on CBS Detroit, MLive and the *Wallstreeter*.

LORRAINE GUTIÉRREZ was invited to give the following presentations at the University of Memphis: "Activist Scholarship for Community Empowerment" to the Center for Research on Women, and "Social Work Practice" at the Intersection of Advocacy and Ethics 2nd Annual Social Work Symposium.

LORRAINE GUTIÉRREZ presented at the International Association for Community Development Conference in Glasgow, UK in June.

LESLIE HOLLINGSWORTH and **DESMOND PATTON** received a TLTC grant to fund a proposal for student engagement in the creation of a model for enhancing

preparation for effective social work services for African American families.

BERIT INGERSOLL-DAYTON received a grant from the U-M Thai Studies Center that will allow her to engage in a collaborative writing workshop with Institute for Policy & Social Research (IPSR) colleagues, as well as analyze research findings.

MIN HEE KIM (PhD), along with mentor **BERIT INGERSOLL-DAYTON**, received a grant from the U-M Rackham Graduate School for work in understanding how academic experts on urbanization and aging evaluate the studies on age-friendly communities.

SHAWNA LEE received an award from the U-M Center for Human Growth & Development to conduct a process study of Mobile Dad, a smartphone app that delivers parenting information to fathers of new babies. This study will collect pilot data from users and service providers to establish implementation feasibility in community settings in Southeast Michigan.

SHAWNA LEE was quoted in an article entitled "A Mother's Warmth is Little Comfort to a Spanked Child," published in *Michigan Today*.

SHAWNA LEE was awarded a grant from the Skillman Foundation via the School of Social Work Technical Assistance Center for her project dealing with positive father involvement.

SHAWNA LEE received a grant from the U-M SSW Child Welfare Learning Community for her work surrounding Mobile Dad.

SHAWNA LEE, JOSEPH HIMLE and **SARA KONRATH** (Assistant Professor, LSA) received a grant from the Social Sciences Annual Institute through the U-M Office of Research for their project, which aims at using technology to expand the reach of psychosocial interventions to underserved populations.

LAURA LEIN, along with colleague **SUE ANN SAVAS**, received an award from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation via the Northeast Michigan Community Service Agency for their work with various Northeast Michigan Children's Behavioral Health Initiative Sponsored programs.

REUBEN MILLER conducted a workshop on prisoner reentry for researchers and service providers entitled "Devolving the Carceral State: Race, Prisoner Reentry, and Urban Poverty Management," in New York on February 19.

REUBEN MILLER presented his paper, "Race, Carceral Devolution, and the Transformation of Urban Poverty in America," at the Yale Ethnography Conference.



Lorraine Gutiérrez



Shawna Lee



Reuben Miller

REUBEN MILLER presented his paper, "Mass Supervision and the Transformation of America's Urban Poor," at the UCLA Innovations on Prison Research Workshop.

SANDRA MOMPER received an award from the American Indian Health and Family Services of South-eastern Michigan for her work to create a system of care to improve, expand and sustain services for families and underserved children and youth.

DAVID NEAL and colleague **MARY RUFFOLO** received an award from the Michigan Department of Community Health for their project that explores more cost-effective ways to deliver services to individuals living with schizophrenia and their families by using the evidence-based practice.

EMILY NICKLETT was appointed to the 2014–2015 Native Investigator Development Program where she will research psychosocial determinants of diabetes outcomes among native elders.

EMILY NICKLETT was awarded a grant from the National Institute on Aging through the University of Colorado, Denver, for her work about health disparities among older adults with type 2 diabetes.

EMILY NICKLETT'S article, "Too Little too Late: Socioeconomic Disparities in the Experience of Women Living with Diabetes," was published in *SAGE Journals*.

EMILY NICKLETT and **MIKE SPENCER'S** article "Direct Social Support and Long-term Health Among Middle-Aged and Older Adults With Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus" was selected as editor's choice by the Gerontological Society of America.

DESMOND PATTON was quoted in "How Do You Tell When a Gang is a Gang?" published in the *Metro Times*. Desmond also discusses "cyberbanging" in the AP story, "Tweets and Threats: Gangs Find New Home on the Net."

DESMOND PATTON was awarded a grant from the Michigan Institute for Clinical and Health Research to conduct research for his project, "Violence Prevention Evaluation."

DESMOND PATTON received an award from the U-M Office of Research for his proposal entitled "Internet Banging: Exploring Social Media Behaviors and Gang Violence Among Black and Latino Males in Chicago."

DESMOND PATTON will contribute an article, "Gangs in Schools," to the *Encyclopedia of Human Services and Diversity*.

DESMOND PATTON'S paper, "Exploring the Social Media Behaviors of Gang Members," was accepted for presentation at the 6th Annual Health Disparities Conference at Teachers College, Columbia University.

DESMOND PATTON had an op-ed "Internet banging reaches Detroit's police chief" published in the *Detroit News*.

DESMOND PATTON had a paper, "Social media as a vector for youth violence: A review of literature" published in *Computers in Human Behavior*.

DESMOND PATTON'S proposal, "Lean on me: How Supportive Adults Impact Black Children's School Achievement," was accepted for the third biennial Division 45 Research Conference as a Symposium.

DESMOND PATTON along with **ABIGAIL WILLIAMS** (PhD student), **BAKARI WALLACE** and **SADIQ PATEL** (MSW recent grads), had their paper selected to be presented at the 2014 SRA Biennial Meeting. The paper/presentation is entitled "Pivotal moments: Experiences with neighborhood violence altering life trajectories for low-income African American adolescents in Flint, MI."

STACY PETERSON was featured in a YouTube video about Lesson Builder.

JANET RAY, JULIE CUSHMAN and **MAUREEN OKASINSKI** (LEO Lecturers) received an award from the U-M Center for Research on Learning & Teaching for their work to improve the current SSW evaluation course, SW 683.

LAUREN REED (2011 MSW) and Richard Tolman received an award from the U-M Rackham Graduate School to continue studying digital forms of dating violence and dating harassment using digital media technology among high school students.

KATIE RICHARDS-SCHUSTER received a TLTC grant for a CASC minor student retreat.

SHARI ROBINSON-LYNK received the Teacher of the Year Award from the SSW Student Union. Shari was nominated by a member of the student body and was selected based upon a submitted essay detailing some of the remarkable ways that she has influenced the students in her classes.

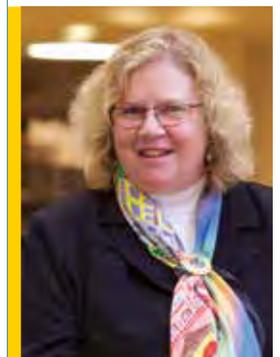
SHARILYNN ROBINSON-LYNK received the Honorary Lavender Degree and delivered the keynote address at the Spectrum Center graduation ceremony.



Emily Nicklett



Desmond Patton



Mary Ruffolo

LARRY ROOT and **KATIE LOPEZ** received a CGE Education Abroad Resource Grant funded by the Associate Provost of Global and Engaged Education for their work titled “Before, During and After: Enhancing Resilience in Students Engaging in International Experiences.”

MARY RUFFOLO and **ADRIENNE LAPIDOS** (Program Coordinator for the Certificate in Integrated Behavioral Health and Primary Care) received an award for a project that evaluates the integrated behavioral health and primary care learning community model established by the Department of Community Health.

DANIEL SAUNDERS was cited in “Grand Accomplishments in Social Work,” published by the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare, for his experimental comparison of interventions for men who batter.

SUE ANN SAVAS received a grant from New York Communities Trust to develop a fellows program in three nonprofits. This project will innovate the field of social work by building and testing the internal capacity for program evaluation in community-based nonprofits.

SUE ANN SAVAS received an award from the Washtenaw County Sheriff’s Office for three different projects dealing with a jail reentry pilot program, community impact and a street outreach program.

SUE ANN SAVAS received a grant from the Department of Justice-Byrne JAG program via the Michigan State Appellate Defender Office to develop, implement and evaluate the “Social Work Sentencing Project.”

KRISTIN SEEFELDT worked with Abt Associates to conduct longitudinal, qualitative interviews with participants from Abt Associates’ “Innovative Strategies for Increasing Self-Sufficiency (ISIS)” program. The ISIS project is a rigorous evaluation of promising strategies which promote employment and self-sufficiency among economically disadvantaged families.

LUKE SHAEFER is a new member of the National Academy of Social Insurance. New members are nominated by current Academy members in recognition of their significant and ongoing professional contributions to the field of social insurance.

LUKE SHAEFER discussed on Concentrate Media how Michigan’s unemployment insurance policies affects children. Shaefer was a co-author of the recently released “Families at Risk II” report.

TRINA SHANKS’ new book, *The Assets Perspective — The Rise of Asset Building and its Impact on Social Policy*, is available on Amazon.

ROBERT TAYLOR was selected to receive the 2014 Pearmain Prize from the University of Southern California Edward R. Roybal Institute on Aging. This award recognizes Taylor as an outstanding senior scholar who has made important contributions to the field of translational aging research.

ELIZABETH THOMASON (Postdoctoral Research Fellow) and mentor **JOSEPH HIMLE** received an award from the Vivian A. and James L. Curtis School of Social Work Research and Training Center for their mixed-methods pilot study that will explore the feasibility and acceptability of designing, developing and delivering cognitive behavioral therapy for postpartum depression in a support group setting using existing agency personnel.

RICHARD TOLMAN received a grant from the U-M Center for Human Growth & Development to conduct a qualitative study of expectant fathers. This study will explore how ultrasound attendance engages and motivates expectant fathers to prepare for their transition to fatherhood.

RICHARD TOLMAN and **SARA KONRATH** (Assistant Professor, LSA) received a grant from the John Templeton Foundation for their research regarding new media’s effects on empathy.

JOHN TROPMAN was selected to speak at ZingTrain on the topic of “Making Meetings Work.”

JOHN TROPMAN was the keynote speaker at the Advancing Safe and Healthy Homes Initiative (ASHHI) annual meeting. ASHHI is a national program sponsored by the Kresge Foundation to address health issues that derive — all or in part — from in-home environmental hazards. The program engages organizations at the federal, state and local levels to improve the health of vulnerable populations across the nation.

JOHN TROPMAN was reappointed to serve on the MHealthy Advisory Committee for an additional two-year term. The purpose of the advisory committee is to generate creative ideas to optimize the health and well-being of the U-M community.

JOHN TROPMAN discussed remote annual meeting locations in “Beware When the Annual Meeting Is in Moosejaw” in the *New York Times*. He also led a webinar on Producing Efficient Meetings for the Network for Social Work Management, an international organization advancing professionals in social work management.



Sue Ann Savas



Luke Shaefer



Trina Shanks

BILL VANDERWILL along with **EMILY WHITLEY** (MSW), **KIMSON BRYANT** (MSW), and **HANNAH REINMANN** (MSW) had their proposal, "Creating Socially Just Neighborhoods: The Power of Art," accepted for presentation at the COLC-NASW Michigan Conference.

BETSY VOSHEL was interviewed for the online *Field Educator Journal*. This issue's topic is interprofessional education and the implications of this framework for social work education.

DAPHNE WATKINS delivered the presidential address at the American Men's Studies Association annual meeting.

DAPHNE WATKINS' article, "The Discipline's Escalating Whisper: Social Work and Black Men's Mental Health," was published in *Research on Social Work Practice*.

DAPHNE WATKINS was interviewed about men's studies on NPR on the show *Tell Me More*.

DAPHNE WATKINS, the first female leader of the men's studies association, was quoted in "Four Decades After Its Founding, Men's Studies Struggles to Define Itself," in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.

ADDIE WEAVER received an award from the U-M Institute for Clinical and Health Research for her research aimed at increasing the understanding of community residents' and stakeholders' perceptions of unmet mental health needs and treatment.

EMILY WHITLEY (MSW), **KIMSON BRYANT** (MSW) and **BILL VANDERWILL** presented, "Creating a Socially Just Neighborhood: The Power of Community Art," at the National Association of Social Work-Michigan Chapter's 2014 Conference.

DANIELA WITTMANN was appointed the co-lead of the sexual recovery intervention development team for a national project concerning prostate cancer survivorship.

MICHAEL WOODFORD was awarded a grant from the Institute for Research on Women and Gender to support his project, "Centering Gender Identity, Gender Expression, and Race in Research, Policy, and Programs to Support LGBTQ College Students through Intersectional Research."

MICHAEL WOODFORD was appointed for a three-year term as a consulting editor with the NASW journal, *Social Work Research*.

MICHAEL WOODFORD'S research was referenced in an article entitled "LGBTQ Microaggressions: Are We Making Mountains Out of Molehills?" in the online magazine *Slate*.

MICHAEL WOODFORD received a faculty seed grant issued by the Institute for Research on Women and Gender for his research project entitled, "Centering Gender Identity, Gender Expression, and Race in Research, Policy, and Programs to Support LGBTQ College Students through Intersectional Research."

NICK YANKEY (SSW Alumni), **KATIE MITCHELL** and **EDIE KIEFFER'S** poster, "Supporting and Maintaining Strong Partnerships and Community-Academic Connections Through Evaluation of a Statewide Community Health Worker Alliance" won second place in the faculty/staff category at the Partnerships for Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Symposium.

MIEKO YOSHIHAMA'S PhotoVoice Exhibit was on NHK Japanese TV and is also on the homepage of the Center for Japanese Studies. The project goal is to strengthen the disaster response policies and practices in Japan (and beyond) by engaging the very women affected by the disasters in the analyses of societal conditions and collective efforts to address them.

BRAD ZEBRACK was quoted in a Reuters story, "Making Music Videos Helps Young Cancer Patients Connect."

BRAD ZEBRACK was featured on a Twitter talk where he discussed various subjects on the topic of young adult cancer (#YACancer).

BRAD ZEBRACK'S undergraduate research assistant, Devika Sachdev, won the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program poster presentation award. The poster is entitled "Psychological Distress and Health-Related Quality of Life for Adolescent and Young Adult Cancer Patients: The First Two Years Following Diagnosis."



John Tropman



Daphne Watkins



Brad Zebrack

CHADIHA, LETHA A.

Chadiha, L. A., Rozario, P. A., Aranda, M. P., & Fielding, A. S. (in press). Older African Americans and other black populations. In B. Berkman and D. Kaplan (eds.), *Handbook of social work in health and aging* (online) [2nd ed.]. New York: Oxford University Press.

Chadiha, L. A. & Rozario, P. A. (in press). Overview: Older adults from diverse cultures. In B. Berkman and D. Kaplan (Eds.), *Handbook of social work in health and aging* (online) [2nd ed.]. New York: Oxford University Press.

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Marie W. Copher | MSW, '69, May 16, 2012

Rosemary Holland | SW, '69, September 21, 2012

Donna M. Sponseller | MSW, '88, September 22, 2012

Lore Jonas | MSW, '66, February 24, 2013

Robert P. Spinde | MSW, '68, May 11, 2013

Steven B. Katz | MSW, '76, May 13, 2013

Shirley Hewelt | MSW, '77, June 11, 2013

Stephen Thomas | MSW, '69, July 16, 2013

Mary G. Egnor | MSW, '67, September 23, 2013

Mary K. Eagan | MSW, '72, October 6, 2013

Laura A. Stein | MSW, '74, October 8, 2013

Joseph R. Dembinski | MSW, '62, October 10, 2013

Guy F. Pucci | MSW, '69, October 23, 2013

Evelyn M. Johnson | MSW, '56, October 25, 2013

Marjorie M. Carpp | MSW, '81, November 1, 2013

Patricia A. Lambel | MSW, '77, November 4, 2013

William B. Spofford | MSW, '50, November 5, 2013

Kevin G. Duris | MSW, '81, November 15, 2013

Dorothy E. Cass | MSW, '89, December 8, 2013

Annette M. Gerten | MSW, '84, December 31, 2013

Eugene Talsma | MSW, '55, January 1, 2014

Gene Wallace | MSW, '54, January 20, 2014

Yolande B. Davenport | MSW, '44, February 21, 2014

Laura M. Gould | MSW, '78, February 28, 2014

Laura W. Stoelting | MSW, '67, March 9, 2014

Robert C. Frederick | MSW, '74, March 26, 2014

Patrick W. Gibbons | MSW, '88, March 26, 2014

Donald M. Hunter | MSW, '71, March 31, 2014

Edith E. Kalish | MSW, '45, March 31, 2014

Lynda A. Walker | MSW, '68, April 18, 2014



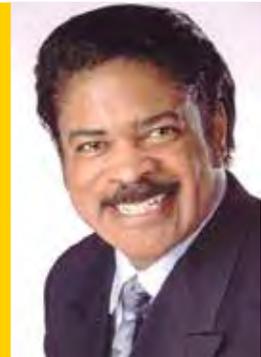


Marcia Naomi Berger

'60s

MARCIA NAOMI (FISCH) BERGER, MSW '68, a psychotherapist and clinical social worker, published *Marriage Meetings for Lasting Love: 30 Minutes a Week to the Relationship You've Always Wanted*.

DAVID SCHWARTZ, MSW '68, is in full-time private practice in the Orthodox Hassidic Jewish community in New York. He specializes in addictions, couples, trauma and sexual abuse and eating disorders. In January 2014, he presented at the NEFESH International Conference.



Harry Hunter

'70s

MARTIN PREIZLER, MSW '70, retired on June 30, 2014. His retirement follows a career in health policy, finance and administration and most recently as Dean of the School of Business at Edgewood College in Madison, WI. Martin plans to remain in a part-time administrative and teaching capacity in the MBA in Health Systems Leadership program that he created.

LYNN SCHNEIDER, MSW '71, received her doctorate in 1975 from Columbia University School of Social Work. She taught practice theory at CUSSW and also had a practice from 1975–1982.



Katherine Edgren

NANCY HATCHER, MSW '72, was named the Social Worker of the Year and awarded the Jill Solomon Award for Excellence in Social Work by the National Hemophilia Foundation at its annual meeting in November. Nancy was selected from an elite group of social workers who care for hemophilia patients throughout the United States. Nancy serves on national and regional committees and is a member of the NHF Ethics Advisory Committee.

PATRICIA WOOD DAVIS, MSW '73, received the Pioneer Award from the NASW Foundation. The foundation is recognizing Davis as an astute educator, a visionary, an advocate, a mentor and a stalwart proponent for the rights and equality of the disenfranchised and the underserved.

HARRY HUNTER, MSW '77, was recently elected to serve on the City of Detroit's Brush Park Citizens District Council for a three-year term ending on May 1, 2017. In 2009 he was the recipient of the Spirit of Detroit Award for exceptional achievement, outstanding leadership, and dedication to improving the quality of life in Detroit. He is a faculty member at the University of Southern California, SSW Virtual Academic Center, Los Angeles, CA.

KATHERINE EDGREN, MSW '79, Finishing Line Press published Katherine's book of poetry titled *Long Division*.

'80s

NANCY KRISEMAN, MSW '82, has been working with elders and their families for more than 30 years. In February 2014 Rowman and Littlefield published her book entitled: *The Mindful Caregiver: Finding Ease in the Caregiving Journey*.

JENNIFER DUBOW, MSW '88, recently became a certified child yoga instructor. This program teaches children how to use yoga to manage anxiety as well as improve attention and social skills.

JUDY EBERSOLE, MSW '88, was named the 2013 Kansas School Social Worker of the Year and recognized at the Midwest School Social Worker Conference.

'90s

CAROLYN GAULDEN, MSW '94, coauthored a paper titled "Interventions for Providers to Promote a Patient Centered Approach in Clinical Consultations."

DAVID POLLIO, PhD '94, has been named chair of the University of Alabama at Birmingham Department of Social Work.

'00s

NANCY D'ANGELO KUSMAUL, MSW '00, is a clinical assistant professor at the College at Brockport. She completed her PhD in social welfare at the University at Buffalo in 2013. Her dissertation is titled "Understanding the Direct Care Workforce in Nursing Homes: A Study of Life Circumstances and Organizational Factors and Their Relationship to Caring Behaviors and Knowledge."

LILITA MATISON, MSW '00, published her first children's book, *Bye-Bye Butterflies: Seven Ways To Breathe Out Worry*.

BETH LINDLEY, MSW '02, was acknowledged by *Social Work Today* magazine as one of ten dedicated and deserving social workers. Her area of specialization is helping seniors age in place.

MARY NEAL, MSW '05, has been working in the addiction and recovery field for more than ten years.



David Pollio

ABIGAIL EILER, MSW '06, was featured in the NASW-Michigan Chapter's March edition of The Bridge newsletter. She is the Region 11 representative and was commended for her work in the area of clinical social work.

RAQUEL CASTANEDA-LOPEZ, MSW '07, was elected to the Detroit City Council, District 6.

SHARON YACKER-ROESSE, MSW '08, was featured on The Ellen Show. She is the principal of Detroit Achievement Academy. Ellen donated \$50,000 to the School.

'10s

KAYLA MASON, MSW '11, is the Director of YOUTH VOICE in Detroit, a project of the Harriet Tubman Center. In April 2014, she led a march of 150 youth and adult allies from Detroit to Lansing to urge schools to adopt policies that limit lengthy expulsions and suspensions to the most serious offenses.

CHRISTINE SAUVE, MSW '11, was honored as a White House Champion of Change and participated in a panel discussion at the White House. She was one of ten honorees recognized for helping immigrants integrate civically, linguistically and socially into the fabric of local communities. She was quoted in the *New York Times* article "Immigrants Welcome Here" by David Bornstein for her work as a project leader for "Welcoming Michigan."

NORI DRACH, MSW '12, wrote an article titled "Rebuilding for Tomorrow." She was one of the featured contributors in the November 2013 Smart Girls Guide.

LINDSAY MATTHEWS, MSW '12, is working for University of Michigan as a medical social worker.

CASSIE ZWART, MSW '14, has received a Post-Master of Social Work Fellowship at Colorado State University Health Network. The fellowship is designed to prepare individuals for a staff position in a university counseling service, with particular emphasis on the integration of mental health and medical services.



Nancy Hatcher



Beth Lindley

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DONOR PROFILE

ANNE GREGO WALKER, MSW '92

Anne Walker's, MSW '92, career path was set in motion long before she completed her B.A. in psychology, and well before she entered the U-M MSW program in 1991.

"I had cancer as a child and was treated in Detroit," Walker said. "This sparked my interest in health care."

Not one to dwell on the past, Walker set her sights on completing her psychology degree at the University of Michigan while she also worked as a data collector with families of children with chronic illness.

"Working with children and their families under the guidance of Professor Barbarin [Professor Emeritus of Social Work Oscar Barbarin III] inspired me to go to grad school," Walker said.

Her career path continued to evolve as she worked with patients with AIDS during her MSW field placement with the University of Michigan Health System.

"All of those pieces contributed to the trajectory of my career," Walker said.

Once graduated with her MSW, she began working in hospitals and nonprofits in the Chicago area and for the past eight years in private practice focused on patients with acute or chronic illness. Since working in health care social work, Walker has seen some considerable changes.

"Not everyone is well-suited to a group approach, and today many patients want their needs met with very specific, individualized care," Walker explained. "I'm fortunate to share office space with some excellent psychologists...We regularly work collaboratively with several members of a family."

When asked how she takes care of herself while caring for others, she's quick to refer to her MSW training.

"We learned we can't service our higher order needs until we meet our basic order needs...it all comes back to giving attention to the primary quadrants of our life...physical, intellectual, emotional and spiritual," Walker said, "and I've had the good fortune of having great colleagues who understand the challenges of the work, and offer a safe space to process the related stressors. Outside of my professional life I do things that anchor me...getting outside, traveling to new cities, connecting with my family and giving back to others."



“You can't come out of the School of Social Work without a sense of philanthropy.”

Philanthropy was always a Walker family value, which was built upon in graduate school. Walker graduated from the School of Social Work when the MSW program was located in the Frieze Building, and they were just breaking ground for the new SSW building on South University. Walker and her classmates were encouraged to host a party with alumni to begin raising money for the new building.

"I laugh when I think about our little house with very minimal furniture...it was the initial movement to make the mark on the campus...we came from very humble beginnings in the Frieze building...and that grabbed me," Walker said.

Walker began donating to the School of Social Work while she was still paying off her school loans.

"I didn't think I was all that generous, but I was consistent, and every year I would make a modest donation. You can't come out of the School of Social Work without a sense of philanthropy... and I looked to integrate that into myself." **M**

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“Without the funding I receive because of my assistantship position, I would never have been able to attend grad school.”

Lauren Tinaglia, MSW Candidate, April '15

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