

THE STILLMAN

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK / WINTER 2017

Champion Intergenerational
Enrichment and Education Center

A PROMISE TO BUILD ON



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK

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THE STILLMAN

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A note from the dean...

Greetings from the College of Social Work!

I hope this edition of *The Stillman* finds its way to you following a peaceful and relaxing holiday season. As we enter into 2017, we want to share with you some of the inspiring examples of how our students, faculty, staff and alumni are making a difference. I have been moved by the commitment and impact of our community, and I imagine you will feel the same way.

Under the leadership of two social work faculty, and in partnership with the Colleges of Nursing and Medicine, and two community agencies, the Champion Intergenerational Enrichment and Education Center (IGC) began serving both older adults and young children in a single setting in Columbus. This innovative partnership attracted the attention of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, resulting in a \$1.2 million five-year grant from its National Institute of Food and Agriculture. This grant will support nutritional programming in the center. In this issue, you'll learn about what happens when children and older adults come together in a purposefully structured setting like the IGC—the first of its kind in Ohio.

Our college lives in the community. While many of us think of Stillman Hall as the hub for social work education at Ohio State, you will also find our people in agencies across Ohio. Often you will find us collaborating with other professionals because complex problems require an interdisciplinary approach. This issue of *The Stillman* describes one faculty member's community-based innovative partnership with physicians, nurses and other health care providers. This collaboration integrates mental and physical health care, serves diverse populations and eliminates the bureaucracy that impedes the well-being of vulnerable people.

Our alums continue to be active and prominent. Did you know that we have alumni in all 50 states and in 16 countries? In this edition, we'll introduce you to our most recent inductees into our college's Alumni Hall of Fame. You'll also learn about two alums—one a finalist for the 2016 Nobel Peace Prize and another who is making an indelible imprint on the lives of foster-care youth and families.

For most of us, our call to this profession reflects a belief that the status quo does not yet work for many in our society. We live in particularly divisive times, and the national conversation on poverty, race, gender identity, immigration and religion is often more polarizing than it is helpful. Remembering our commitment to the values of our profession, we invite you to help us contribute to a more thoughtful, if not often uncomfortable, dialogue on creating a more kind and compassionate society. Locally, many agencies and individual social workers are displaying our "Social Change Lives Here" yard signs, and alumni from across the nation are posting



to our hashtag #justice4all. You'll read about some of the ways we hope to both advance advocacy and invite meaningful dialogue on challenging topics.

On the subject of accomplishments, we continue to climb in the rankings. In the *U.S. News & World Report's* 2017 edition of "America's Best Graduate Schools," we ranked 9th among public institutions and 17th overall among 240 graduate social work programs nationwide. We are very pleased to add this tremendous accomplishment to our rich, long history.



Finally, I want to thank many of you for all the ways you shared your concern and support with us during the violence we experienced on campus in November. The tragedy occurred just north of Stillman Hall, and our staff and faculty worked together to protect close to 200 students. We also hosted a number of conversations in the following weeks to support those who were impacted by the event. We hope, maybe naively, that every campus will become safer for all.

Please enjoy our latest edition of *The Stillman*. I wish a safe and successful 2017 to all of you. Remember, spring is not that far away. We'll be out riding before we know it.

Best wishes,

Dr. Tom Gregoire, MSW, PhD
Dean, The Ohio State University College of Social Work

New faculty

Arati Maleku, assistant professor
Improving immigrant health. Dr. Maleku says the nation's immigrant health policy overlooks two fundamental issues: how the overlapping effects of social location affect individual well-being, and how migration and ethnicity-related factors are strategically ignored in health policies. By fully exploring the intersection of gender, race and class beyond traditionally researched cultural explanations, she hopes to advance health equity research and build community resilience among ethnic minority populations.



Cecilia Mengo, assistant professor
Seeking a path to escape violence. Victims of violence have a strong advocate in Dr. Mengo. Growing up in rural Kenya, she saw firsthand the impact that violence from intimate partners, HIV/AIDS and economic hardships had on women. Through her research, she is searching for solutions that include economic empowerment, social support and coping strategies that can provide a recovery buffer for women in diverse U.S. and sub-Saharan African populations. If successful, her efforts could help structure policies, interventions and social work services to address these issues.



Camille R. Quinn, assistant professor
Giving troubled youth a chance. Ohio State's commitment to social justice and community was a calling to Dr. Quinn. She has partnered with the Ohio Department of Youth Services to improve juvenile offenders' mental health while understanding the relationship between co-occurring non-suicidal self-injury, substance abuse and trauma exposure, as well as their re-entry needs. Her work could potentially inform interventions to help juvenile offenders transition to society and overcome barriers associated with their law-breaking behavior.



Susan Yoon, assistant professor
Helping children overcome maltreatment. Dr. Yoon's research, influenced by her work as a child protective services worker in South Korea, aims to build resilience in maltreated children. She is examining why some of these children experience mental health and behavioral problems and some thrive. With a \$60,000 grant from the Administration on Children, Youth and Families, a division of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, she tracked the factors that influence maltreated children's behavioral trajectory. As a Buckeye, she will continue looking at placement stability and fathers' roles in children's development, as well as the effect of exposure to multiple types of violence, crime and abuse on children in early developmental periods.



New opportunities

Denise Bronson, associate professor
 After eight years as the associate dean for academic affairs, Dr. Bronson has returned to her faculty position and is excited about resuming teaching and scholarship in the areas of evaluation, evidence-based practice and systematic reviews to advance social work practice.



Carla Curtis, associate professor
 In early 2016, the college appointed Dr. Curtis as its first chief diversity officer. With the aid of a diversity workgroup, she will continue to build a supportive climate that reflects a focus on diversity and inclusion.



Tamara Davis, associate professor
 Dr. Davis has been appointed as the college's new associate dean for academic affairs. She will lead the college in enhancing its teaching and learning programming as well as preparing for its next Council on Social Work Education re-accreditation. She previously served as the MSW program director.



Mo Yee Lee, professor
 Dr. Lee is the new director of the college's PhD program. Through her leadership, our unique program will continue to promote translational science that builds from basic research to application and dissemination to the social work community.



Lois Stepney, MSW, LISW-S
 Stepney joins the college as its new MSW program director. A community lecturer for the college's MSW program since 2002, she brings innovative ideas for continued growth and development of the program.



SHE'S A FIRST!

BSSW student Maggie Griffin wins Ohio State's first President's Prize

Congratulations to BSSW student Maggie Griffin, one of two winners of the inaugural President's Prize, the highest university recognition bestowed on exceptional students committed to social change. Special recognition also goes to the college's Dr. Michelle Kaiser, Griffin's mentor.

Established by President Michael V. Drake in 2016 to re-affirm the university's commitment to public service, the President's Prize honors two graduating seniors whose proposals have the most potential for significant societal challenge. Griffin's proposal addresses the reality that 20 percent of children in Franklin County live in food deserts. Her project, The UNITY Fridge Program, will establish community gardens and place outdoor refrigerators at public schools in food deserts across Columbus. This will allow students to bring home a bag of fresh produce for 40 weeks.

"During my Social and Economic Justice social work class, we were tasked to research an issue in our society. I chose to look at food deserts and food insecurity," Griffin says. "The more I learned about this topic, the more frustrated I became. Even after the class, I began to look into this topic further and at how it affected the Columbus community. When I heard about the President's Prize, I knew this was the area I wanted to focus on."

The award provides Griffin with a \$50,000 one-year living stipend and up to \$50,000 in start-up funding. In addition, she will have access to faculty mentors and other experts, and the opportunity to share project ideas with Ohio State's global community of alumni, friends and partners.

"The UNITY Fridge Program would not have been possible without Dr. Kaiser's guidance. She read drafts of my proposals, helped me prepare for my presentation and gave me the confidence I needed to complete this project," Griffin says. "I am lucky to have such a wonderful mentor who is so willing to work with me and educate me further on this issue and its effect on the Columbus community."

KayMesha Knox, an English major from Columbus, also won the President's Prize. Her mentoring project is designed to help 50 students at East High School, on Columbus' Near East Side, get into college.

Both students won a rigorous, multiround competition producing applications from 57 students across campus. The College of Social Work had three semi-finalists and two finalists.



"Food is a basic right that I honestly have often taken for granted. It is unjust that a lack of access can cause such severe physical, social and emotional issues for children and their families."

Maggie Griffin
 BSSW student and
 winner of the inaugural
 President's Prize

A neighbor's help can curb child maltreatment

Neighbors who are invested in each other can help lower the risk of child abuse and neglect, especially in neighborhoods with high rates of poverty.

After a decade of research, Assistant Professor Katie Maguire-Jack found maltreatment risks for children surge in impoverished neighborhoods, even when families are living above the federal poverty line.

“When parents live in stressful environments with high rates of poverty and other disadvantages, it can be even more difficult to deal with the everyday stressors of raising children,” Maguire-Jack says. “Supporting parents living in such circumstances is key to providing a safe and loving environment for their children.”

That support can come from caring, trustworthy neighbors, she says. Through her work in Franklin County, Ohio, Maguire-Jack observed that when neighbors provided basic-need assistance, such as putting food on the table and providing emergency child



care, parents were better able to meet their children's needs.

“This is especially salient considering that approximately 80 percent of all child maltreatment reports are due to concerns of neglect,” she says.

Her work is important because of the need for a well-rounded approach in prevention strategies. Education programs alone are unlikely to help parents who are struggling to meet basic needs, so “interventions that target both the individual parent as well as the context in which they live” are the likely

successors in preventing child abuse and neglect, she says.

Maguire-Jack is working with the Ohio Children's Trust Fund Board to develop a child maltreatment prevention plan for a 13-county area in central Ohio, and she will help evaluate the implemented strategies over the next five years. She is also expanding her work into Shelby County, Ohio, to see how rural communities with smaller populations, larger geographies and fewer services function to help support families.

Kaiser's teaching recognized for real-world impact

Assistant Professor Michelle Kaiser's teaching and research philosophies are rooted in a single principle: Empower people.

In the classroom, Kaiser creates an environment where all thoughts, ideas, opinions and perspectives are freely shared. She encourages open-mindedness, introspection and awareness of one's biases—foundational attributes no matter the course.

Her approach, for which she earned the 2016 Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching, the university's highest teaching honor, reflects who she is and how she hopes to affect the world.

“I hope that when they leave my class, students feel more informed, more able to think critically and support their ideas with research and concrete examples,” Kaiser says. “I want students to feel supported in their emerging roles of being compassionate people with specific skills that will help them in their future profession.”

Kaiser teaches both core and honors social work courses, but what she considers her formative class is her elective interdisciplinary service-learning course “Follow the Tomato: Community Food Strategies.”



“It's a chance to put students in the field, away from theory and the campus bubble, to help them understand how their learning relates to real people, real lives, real communities,” Kaiser says.

The course research involves mapping food security and access across 10 zip codes in Columbus to understand where people shop, what types of foods are available, what food they buy and what effect that has on their health. The work has been published in numerous journals, and Kaiser says her team of

faculty, staff and graduate students ensures that versions of the food maps are available for community partners and the general public. The team also developed infographics that community groups have used to secure federal grants.

In the meantime, the food maps and an executive summary of a related 100-page report are being refined, and data from a 90-store audit is being analyzed for food availability and affordability.

“I try to keep in perspective the impact of quality research, which is used to influence policies and interventions that can improve the lives of people and their communities,” Kaiser says.

Giving peace a chance

Ives' crusade for social justice drew a Nobel nomination

College of Social Work alumnus David Ives (BSSW '73, MA '75) did not expect to win the 2016 Nobel Peace Prize. And he didn't. He was, after all, one of 376 candidates to be nominated. It went instead to Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos for his work to end a civil war that has tormented his country for more than 50 years.

But no matter, Ives says. The nomination was truly meaningful. It was an unexpected and respectful nod to a lifetime of giving back.

Mission trips to South America with his mother and minister father exposed Ives to the effects of abject poverty. He was 16 when he saw his first hovel made of cardboard and corn stalks.

“I've never gotten over that, and even now it comes back to haunt me, people in poverty and nobody really caring about it,” Ives says. “But that's probably what drives me.”

His trips to Brazil, Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador and Venezuela laid the groundwork for his path into social work. In 1973, he earned a bachelor's degree in social work and was among 10 outstanding seniors recognized by Ohio State. In 1975, he earned a master's degree in education from Ohio State.

“I thrived there. When combined with the good instructors I had, it's a place that really made a difference in my life, and I still use its ideas and philosophies in everything I do now.”

His personal struggles and his time in the Peace Corps in Costa Rica, where he learned to speak fluent Spanish, helped narrow his purpose. As a child, he contracted polio and was struck by Guillain-Barré syndrome, rendering him quadriplegic. He was eventually able to walk again thanks to excellent occupational therapy.

Ives, who was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease two years ago, now works with two Nobel laureates, former Costa Rican President Oscar Arias Sánchez and Guatemalan activist Rigoberta Menchú Tum, to establish occupational- and physical-therapy programs for disabled people in Nicaragua and Guatemala.

“People in that part of the world who are disabled are ostracized and not viewed as human, and I aim to change all that,” Ives says, who since 2002 has been executive director of The Albert Schweitzer Institute at Quinnipiac University, which supports worldwide humanitarian efforts.

In that role, Ives will be going to Colombia to meet the man who won the Nobel—and to support Colombia's youth during the Nobel Peace Summit.

“My focus will be on supporting Colombia youth because they'll be the ones to implement the peace accord,” Ives says. “We are bringing young people in from all over the world to support them as they struggle to achieve peace. I'll be working with more than 200 students to make sure the peace process moves forward with young people.”



Champion Intergenerational Enrichment and Education Center

A PROMISE TO BUILD ON



Center seniors, children and administrators participate in one of many activities designed to integrate seniors with youth.

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In the middle of a congested construction zone vibrating to the thrum of heavy machinery, a promise to revitalize a Columbus neighborhood with a rich African American history is taking root and beginning to flower.

It's happening on the city's Near East Side, just blocks from Ohio State University Hospital East, in the middle of an 800-acre rectangle bounded by I-670 to the north, Woodland Avenue to the east, Broad Street to the south, and I-71 to the west.

One telltale hint of the promise to come is Champion Intergenerational Enrichment and Education Center, a project supported in part by the College of Social Work that provides a safe place for older adults to socialize and get medical care and a developmentally rich environment for young children to prepare for school.

"There's something amazing that happens every day," says Elizabeth Speidel, Ohio State's intergenerational program manager at the center. "And sometimes it's as simple as a smile between an excited child and an adult who might be withdrawn because of dementia."

Located at 240 N. Champion Ave., the center is a small but important part of a much larger university-community collaboration to revitalize a neighborhood long afflicted by crime, poverty and blight. It fills a critical need in an area with a disproportionately high percentage of kids under 17 and adults over 55.

"We made a promise to the community, and this is one example of fulfilling that promise," says Trudy Bartley shortly after the Champion center opened in December 2015 in a building that four years earlier was on the verge of being demolished.

Bartley is assistant vice president for community relations at Ohio State and executive director of Partners Achieving Community Transformation (PACT), the nonprofit overseeing plans to add housing, reduce crime, improve educational opportunities and increase employment on the Near East Side. The city, Ohio State and Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority are partners.

Champion serves about 50 seniors and 50 children each weekday, during a portion of which the two groups come together in activities such as reading, blowing bubbles and exercise. It can be unpredictable.

"Remember that parachute game you would play in gym class?" Speidel says. "We do that, and believe me, the kids are not gentle. For a brief second the other day, I was pretty sure that one of the men would rip his arm out, so I told the kids to calm down. But the older adults yelled, 'No way!' and started going faster."

Research has shown that when the very old and very young are brought together in well-designed programs relationships can be built and a sense of purpose created. But just because it can happen doesn't mean it always does. Truth is, young children and seniors sometimes don't get along.



Center staff, college faculty and center participants: (front row, from left) Naseer Smith, Elizabeth Speidel, Pauline Thomas, Cynthia Dougherty and Mary Beth Happ. (back row, from left) Holly Dabelko-Schoeny, Shannon Jarrott, Catherine Marshall and Sandy Waller

On the cover: Senior participant Mayme Swanson, a former teacher on military bases around the world, wields her puppet magic with Xavier McDaniel and Mason Phinney, two pre-school students at Columbus Early Learning Centers at Champion.

"There's something amazing that happens every day. And sometimes it's as simple as a smile between an excited child and an adult who might be withdrawn and isolated because of dementia."

Elizabeth Speidel

*Champion Intergenerational Center
program manager*

Getting the most from the cross-generational encounters requires a lot of thought and planning, something reflected each day at Champion, thanks in part to the work of Professor Shannon Jarrott who has developed a training program and checklist to ensure quality exchanges. Jarrott, who consulted on the center while a faculty member at Virginia Tech, joined the College of Social Work in 2015.

Continued on page 10



Strangely, Champion's roots go back to Ohio State, when in 2008, a campus intergenerational center was proposed to ease faculty and staff concern about child care and the need to tend to elderly parents. Discussed at a World Café co-sponsored by the College of Social Work, the idea was eventually expanded to the larger Columbus community and folded into the PACT blueprint.

With the support of Dean Tom Gregoire of the College of Social Work, the Colleges of Medicine and Nursing agreed to a tripartite partnership to direct the university's role in the project. Associate Professor Holly Dabelko-Schoeny was instrumental in the planning and implementation and has worked closely with Jarrott since the center opened.

"Champion provides an opportunity to recognize the abilities of elders and young children in supporting individual and community growth," Dabelko-Schoeny says. "Through student field placements, teaching, on-site courses and engaging the center and the community in research activities, the College of Social Work is fully embedded in the neighborhood."

At Champion, students from the Colleges of Social Work, Nursing and Medicine learn an important aspect of their future work: how to engage across generations to provide effective clinical services.

"When they come in, I tell them this is going to be different than any place they're used to," Speidel says. "They're here to learn how to interact with people, to talk to them, to engage them, to understand



Older adults, pre-school children and BSSW student Julia Borsukevich find their places at the Champion center working with and learning from each other.



little girl whom he had been so stiff around on day one, and when he saw me looking over with surprise, he shouted back, 'You just gotta let go!'"

Despite the strong start, the center and its partners are really only beginning to find their legs, to say nothing of their direction.

"Collaboration is hard," Dabelko-Schoeny says. "We're putting structures in place to ensure that we can work toward our shared goal of enhancing the care and education of our elders and children."

This summer, faculty from the three lead colleges and leaders from National Church Residences and Columbus Early Learning Centers (the organizations that provide day services for seniors and children) met to consider long-term plans across a variety of areas, says Cynthia Dougherty, director of the Office of Geriatrics and Interprofessional Aging in the College of Medicine.

"They came up with guiding principles not only for the daily work that's being done, but for the education that will happen there and the research," she says. "The draft has been circulated to all three colleges and is just about ready to be finalized."

just how valuable it is and how good it makes people feel to hear something as simple as, 'So great to see you today.'

"But to get the most out of it, they need to be adaptable and flexible. We had a medical student who was obviously tense and uncomfortable and had a lot of reservations when he arrived. But the transformation after working here just a month was amazing. On his last day, he was singing and dancing with the same

"Through student field placements, teaching, on-site courses and engaging the center and the community in research activities, the College of Social Work is fully embedded in the neighborhood."

Holly Dabelko-Schoeny
Associate Professor

As much as anyone, Dougherty has played a big role in the evolution of the center, having been involved in its planning, serving as its original intergenerational program manager, and now leading the office responsible for Ohio State's daily involvement there.

"I'm so fortunate that I can leave the medical campus and get to Champion at least once a week," she says. "I joke with my husband that if I ever need a confidence boost or I'm having a bad day, I go there because the people always lift my spirits."

Dougherty, who earned her master's and PhD through the College of Social Work, says Champion reflects the university's land-grant commitment to improve the community, state and region. And she can see a day when it becomes integrated into the Discovery Themes initiative, Ohio State's \$500 million commitment to inspire inventive alliances inside and outside the university to address the complex problems of the 21st century—among them, food security and health and wellness.

"So we are definitely interested in connecting to Discovery Themes," she says, "not only through the outreach, engagement and programming that's happening at Champion, but also with the research that will take place in the future."

For now, as construction continues in the area, Speidel and Dougherty can only guess at Champion's growth and the impact it will have on the neighborhood.

"We really don't know what the community around us is going to look like, who's moving back or what their needs will be," Speidel says. "We hear 300 families could be moving in eventually, but right now nobody lives near the center except at Poindexter Place, the senior apartments across the street. Family housing will be the next phase of the project."

"So our one-year plan right now is to really get to know the organizations that serve the community, and that's primarily through PACT. In the end, our goal is collaboration, to make sure we are in step with the wishes of the community, whatever that looks like."

A seat at the research table

Besides serving young children and seniors on the Near East Side, the Champion Intergenerational Center is an important educational and research tool for the university.

Thanks to a \$1.2 million grant, Professor Shannon Jarrott and Associate Professor Holly Dabelko-Schoeny, both from the College of Social Work, will launch a five-year project to increase access and consumption of healthy food by young children and their families on the Near East Side, an area notably lacking in food stores. Champion is one of two Columbus Early Learning Centers where the research will be done.

Through a comprehensive, community-based approach developed in partnership with residents, neighborhood leaders, churches and other social organizations, Jarrott and Dabelko-Schoeny

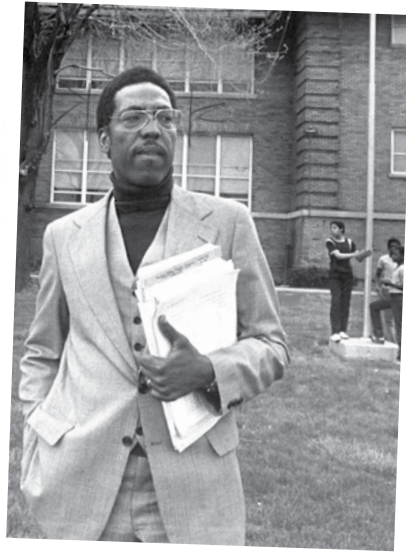
hope to increase the amount of food available on the Near East Side, and access to it, as well as improve nutrition education. Michelle Kaiser, an assistant professor of social work, is a consultant on the study. In previous work, Kaiser used surveys and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mapping to plot areas of food insecurity in the inner city.

Children in food-insecure homes are absent from school more frequently, have delayed cognitive development, experience more emotional stress, and have a higher likelihood of being hospitalized compared to children with access to sufficient, healthy meals.

Money for the project, "Food for a Long Life: A Community-Based Intergenerational Project in Ohio and Virginia," was awarded through the Children, Youth and Families at Risk Program, administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The project is a partnership with Virginia Tech researchers who will study food access at two Head Start sites located in Lynchburg, Virginia.





STANDING UP, SPEAKING OUT

Professor Emeritus Charles Ross was a fearless critic of social injustice, police brutality

Before there was a Black Lives Matter movement, there were strong individuals who were willing to stand against the injustice African Americans suffered at the hands of law enforcement.

When College of Social Work Professor Charles O. Ross Jr. arrived at Ohio State from Chicago in 1970, he was a candid critic of what he perceived to be systemic issues within police departments across the country: racial profiling and excessive force toward blacks. Those who knew him said he was fearless during a time of great social upheaval (America was just six years removed from the signing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964). And his beliefs and actions inspired the next generation to speak up even when it might be unpopular to do so.

“Professor Ross never settled down, smoothed over, covered up or pacified any situation,” Dean Tom Gregoire says. “At least not when settling down, smoothing over, covering up or pacifying was to the advantage of those in power or the detriment of the oppressed.

“If the measure of a man is the courage he shows in standing up on behalf of others, then Charles Ross was a big man.”

Associate Professor Jacquelyn Meshelemiah remembers Ross, who died in 2013 at age 79, as a courageous and unwavering champion of civil rights. She had a unique relationship with him as his student, his graduate teaching assistant and later as his colleague in the college.

“Professor Ross strongly felt that violence toward African Americans had the blessings of the ‘powers that be,’” she says. “He felt that law enforcement had to be called out on its racism and



Professor Charles Ross addresses a student protest rally at the president's office at Ohio State's Bricker Hall on February 21, 1969. Ross supported students' efforts to end the widespread racist practices on campus.

violent tendencies. Like Charles Ross, the founders, members and supporters of Black Lives Matter want justice and equality for black people. Like Professor Ross, they are bringing attention to racism, classism, racial profiling, police brutality and economic injustices inflicted upon blacks in America.”

Ross' activism took many forms, including holding community rallies at Franklin Park on Columbus' Near East Side to bring

attention to law enforcement issues. He even went to jail while trying to support Linden-McKinley High School students, who were staging a rally to eulogize and pay tribute to Malcolm X in May 1971.

The students had taken down the American flag and raised the red, green and black Pan-African flag, says Marcus Ross, the youngest of Ross' two sons.

“He came in toward the end of the protest and convinced the students they needed to leave, and a skirmish broke out,” Marcus says. “The city of Columbus public safety director told him to leave in five minutes or we're going to arrest you.”

Ross refused and was arrested for disorderly conduct and two other charges. The Ohio State Board of Trustees dismissed him as director of the Black Studies program after just a year.

William Kunstler, the New York lawyer for Martin Luther King Jr., agreed to defend Ross, but in Ohio he needed local counsel to sit in as well. No Franklin County lawyer would agree to take Ross' case. Raymond Twohig Jr., an Ohio State law instructor who had also been arrested at the rally, became second chair. Ross was found guilty in July 1972, the conviction was upheld on appeal and he spent 30 days in county jail.

Marcus says that's when his mom, Ruth, decided to become a lawyer, so his dad would always have representation. “She knew he was never going to stop,” he says. “It elevated my father to iconic status in many ways as someone who would stand up for his rights and for civil rights.

“I think growing up in the heart of the segregated south in Birmingham, he decided he would rather die on his feet than live on his knees. When you make that fundamental core decision at a very early age and you decide that's how you're going to live, you don't look back. A lot of folks have continued to live like that because of his influence.”

Professor Emeritus Rudolph Alexander says Ross, who advocated for Alexander's hiring at Ohio State in 1989, would undoubtedly be a leader in the Black Lives Matter movement were he alive today.

“In the 1970s, Brother Ross was espousing the tenets of the Black Lives Matter movement, and it is not something new,” Alexander says. “He even confronted Woody Hayes about the lack of black quarterbacks playing for Ohio State. Black quarterbacks were nonexistent at this time, but Brother Ross was not afraid to raise the issue.”

Ross, according to his son Marcus, had no illusions that such issues had quick conclusions. It is why he espoused standing up for one's core beliefs consistently and why, Meshelemiah says, he encouraged his students and others to stay abreast of current events: To change the world, you must know the world.

“My father clearly understood struggle is often on a continuum,” says Marcus, who became a lawyer because of his father's influence. “Without struggle, there is no progress. So I don't know that he would be disappointed that Black Lives Matter had to happen. I think he would be rolling his sleeves up and saying these are issues we still need to be engaged with.”



Professor Charles Ross was arrested at a rally organized by Linden-McKinley High School students to eulogize Malcolm X and later spent 30 days in county jail. New York attorney William Kunstler, who played a major role in the legal battles of the Civil Rights Movement, defended Ross. The two, along with Ross' wife, Ruth, spoke to the news media on the steps of City Hall on April 3, 1972, before a hearing to determine if Kunstler could represent Ross.

“If the measure of a man is the courage he shows in standing up on behalf of others, then Charles Ross was a big man.”

Dean Tom Gregoire

CSW students in our neighborhoods

Grant-funded partnership trains social work students in integrated care

What health care barriers do people living in poverty face?
Do older adults in the United States have access to the health care they need?
Who is advocating for the LGBTQ community's health care needs?
These are just a few of the questions social work students face as part of a highly competitive field education placement geared toward integrating mental health care into primary care for Ohio's Medicaid population.

Through the Social Work in Primary Care Behavioral Health Workforce Program, 15 to 20 MSW students focused on mental health and substance abuse treatment are selected annually to receive specialized training that includes culturally relevant integrated health care, mental health and social care. The students also learn about the broader policy and practice context surrounding integrated care. It is one of a handful of field placements where students get intensive supervision on an ongoing basis for the entire academic year.

"We have a great team of professionals coming together to make this program successful," says Tamara Davis, associate dean for academic affairs and principal investigator for the project. "The students' supervisors are jointly employed by the college and PrimaryOne Health and were specifically hired with MEDTAPP funding to train students in this approach to behavioral health care."

Now in its fifth year, the Social Work in Primary Care Behavioral Health Workforce program is supported by a Medicaid Technical Assistance and Policy Program (MEDTAPP) Healthcare Access Initiative (HCA) grant. Administered by the Ohio Colleges of Medicine Government Resource Center (GRC), HCA supports health care professional recruitment and training programs that focus on behavioral health, community health workers, interprofessional education and community-based experiences to increase access to care for the Medicaid and underserved populations.

Research has documented links between mental and physical health, and the Affordable Care Act has influenced health care systems to make behavioral health care accessible to patients. This MEDTAPP-funded program aims to increase numbers of clinical



Left to right: Shannon Evans, MEDTAPP clinical supervisor, and MSW students Hilary Demostenes, Clare Hughes and Leah Rizek participate in a unique CSW field placement to provide team-based integrated health care at PrimaryOne Health.

social workers to play key roles in health care. The program and curriculum have adapted over the years to meet the needs of students and patients.

"The Affordable Care Act is calling for more whole-health care, treating people and their holistic health needs," Davis says. "Integrated care is an attempt to treat both physical and mental health as relevant to one's overall health and well-being."

"Our curriculum is really focused on teaching students about diversity and how they need to be much more prepared to work with a variety of populations," Davis says. "We're embedding a lot of cultural training because it's key that students understand not only what people are presenting with, but also how to ask questions to find out if social conditions are impacting someone's ability to get the care they need."

At least 80 percent of students who complete the program have continued working in agencies that see a high volume of Medicaid patients, Davis says.

Beyond its impact on a single health care organization, the workforce development training program prepares the next generation of social workers to participate as full partners on integrated health care teams.

Students help develop the big picture for patients at primary care free clinic

Social workers are trained to see the world differently, piecing together complex puzzles to form a comprehensive picture of human needs and wellness. College of Social Work MSW and BSSW students apply those skills every week as they volunteer alongside medical, nursing and pharmacy students at an on-campus free clinic that provides primary care services.

The student-run Columbus Free Clinic is housed at the Rardin Family Practice, 2231 N. High St. About 15 social work students volunteer at the clinic, up from four about two years ago, says Assistant Director of Field Education Anna Stewart. She sees the students' work as benefiting their education, as well as improving wellness for individual patients and the larger community.

"Since many people start with their primary care physicians for basic and specialty health care needs, having a social worker in the office is crucial—it allows patients to have access to someone who can provide them with additional education and resources," Stewart says. "It also allows patients to address barriers to care. This helps ensure they follow up with their providers, leading to better health outcomes," Stewart says.

Among the projects social work students are implementing is "waiting-room wellness," which takes advantage of patient downtime at the clinic. Using an intake survey, students determine the services each patient needs—from help determining insurance qualification to finding a primary care provider or taking steps to address mental-health challenges. Some patients need help with food choices to manage chronic conditions.

"It's all about assisting people in finding services to help them get and stay physically and mentally healthy," Stewart says.

She and the students are also working with local organizations to provide fresh produce to clinic patients. That project is still under way, but Stewart is excited about the idea of making healthy choices easier by bringing fruits and vegetables to those who need them.

Other improvements that social work students are working on include examining patient geographic data to better understand needs and providing resource packets to every patient when they leave, based on intake surveys.



From left: Loren Knisley, lead MSW student volunteer; Ashley McQueary, undergraduate volunteer; Linden Eldredge, MSW student volunteer; Ming Hong MSW, LSW volunteer supervisor; Yitong Xin, MSW student volunteer; Morgan Griesdorn, MSW student volunteer; Anna Stewart, MSW, LISW-S social work adviser

Students receive field practicum hours and human rights advocacy hours, but the time is all volunteer. Additionally, two MSW students serve on the student steering committee for the clinic alongside medical and pharmacy students.

"It's really wonderful that our students are so involved and committed to this program," Stewart says. "They're teaching the other disciplines on the health care team about the value of social work in community health care settings."

Christopher M. Esber, MD, agrees. He is a chief medical resident in Internal Medicine at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center and one of the physicians at the Columbus Free Clinic.

"The social work team clearly gets the big picture, which physicians and medical students may struggle with grasping," Esber says. "Having social work as part of our interdisciplinary team also helps us as providers broaden our scope of practice and understanding of the community members we serve."

New online MSW fills need for busy students, agencies around the state, across the country

Life is busy. Between full-time jobs, family responsibilities, volunteer work and other demands, finding time for a master's program can be daunting.

Understanding these competing commitments but also the need for MSWs in communities around Ohio, the College of Social Work is now offering its MSW Advanced Standing Alternative Program (ASAP) online. The part-time online option launched this academic year, and the full-time option will launch summer 2017. Now students can complete their MSW degree in either one or two years without leaving their communities. The online ASAP option currently focuses on the mental health and substance abuse specialization.

"As a land-grant university, we really want to reach out to our rural communities and make this accessible to them," says Tamara Davis, associate dean for academic affairs. "This is also a good fit for any students who may be working full time and have other responsibilities but really want to get their master's degree."

The first cohort of students began studies in summer 2016. Early response has been robust, with online enrollment already exceeding the numbers in the traditional face-to-face part-time ASAP Program.

The program was developed at the university using innovative and interactive techniques that apply best practices in educational technology.

"What sets us apart is that we have committed to doing everything in house, using the expertise of our faculty and instructors along with our instructional designers to bring our program to life," Davis says. "The program is really creative in bringing different kinds of resources together to create an online environment that is proving to be as effective as face-to-face classes."

The online ASAP Program includes both synchronous and asynchronous classes. That means some courses require students to meet online at a set time and have live dialogue while others allow students to log on according to their own schedule with participation through discussion boards and other activities. Interaction is essential in both types of courses.

The online MSW students can complete their field practicums in their home communities; the College of Social Work has relationships with more than 800 agencies across the state, and Davis anticipates the new online ASAP Program could expand even further.

"We already get out there across the state, and now we have more opportunities open to us to work with agencies who want our students," she says. "We are responding to a dire need for increasing the state's behavioral health work force."



Jessica Sornchai lives right outside Marion, Ohio, and is taking advantage of the new part-time online MSW ASAP option that focuses on mental health and substance abuse. She usually attends her online classes from her living room.

Now students can complete their MSW degree online in one or two years without ever leaving their communities.

Serving foster-care youth and their families with passion and focus

For **Steve Geib**, it's about celebrating success—no matter how big or small

Since 1989, when he founded Agape for Youth, Steve Geib (BSSW '81) has helped hundreds of kids and their families in the most fundamental way—he's given them hope. It's a journey, he acknowledges, that began during his time as a social work student.

"My experience at Ohio State put me on this path. I'm very proud of all we've done at Agape," Geib says.

The nonprofit, which started in Dayton, Ohio, but has expanded to the Cincinnati area, is dedicated to finding stable, loving, long-term families for the children it serves. It provides foster care, facilitates adoption through foster care and works to keep children and birth families together through its reunification program.

More than 23,700 children are in foster care throughout the state, according to the social services agency OhioGuidestone. These are children who, through no fault of their own, had to be removed from their families because of abusive or neglectful situations.

"We are very careful not to lose focus on our mission and the passion for what we're doing," Geib says, "or for the community we serve."

Agape provides a variety of year-round programming and experiences for the community including a Santa's Secret Workshop, outings to the zoo and even a day with Ohio State athletes, cheerleaders and Brutus Buckeye. Agape also offers a



back-to-school program that provides backpacks full of supplies, as well as a variety of other programs and fundraisers.

In continuing the efforts and mission of Agape, the organization has expanded its services to Cincinnati, Ohio.

"Our outreach in Cincinnati has gone extremely well. I'm glad we've expanded our reach and established a footprint there," Geib says. "As with our Dayton program, its success is dependent on our staying very centered in how we do our work and how we're serving. I can't emphasize that enough."

Passion, he says, is a primary focus of the team and the people they serve. Taking the time to celebrate—no matter what the journey or goal—is crucial.

"It's about the art of celebration," Geib says. "Taking a moment to recognize what you did, what you achieved. It's such a lost concept that's easily forgotten. We remind the youth and families we serve, and also ourselves—celebrate for goodness sake!"

Geib appreciates the support and hard work of his mentors at Ohio State, co-workers, volunteers and many donors and sponsors, but he gives the real credit to the children and families that make up the organization's community.

"The bottom line is that they made the choice to accept assistance and get the help and guidance to move forward in their lives," he says. "The more we serve, the more opportunities we are given to serve."

27 years of experience working in foster care, adoption through foster care and reunification

} **Agape for Youth, Inc.**

Advocacy: Fulfilling our mission

In a time of uncertainty and unrest, as societal norms and structures are being challenged, it's important to stay true to our profession's ethics and values. Especially when issues surrounding advocacy are controversial and emotions are overwhelming, what can we do and how can we fulfill our commitment?

For the college, the charge to stand firm in its convictions and advocate for those whose voices are often suppressed or ignored is ever present. We stand firm. We stand tall. We advocate for those who need it most.

Here are just a few of the ways the college has chosen to act when faced with what will certainly become some of the most important issues of our lifetime.

STUDENT-SPONSORED WATER DRIVE FOR FLINT

In February 2016, College of Social Work students organized a water drive that included both water and financial support to purchase water for the residents of Flint, Michigan. The drive extended well beyond Ohio State's main and regional campuses and attracted support from community outreach agencies, schools and Kroger, which discounted water and transported 10 pallets totaling more than 20,000 bottles to Flint at no charge. In all, more than 15 tons of water were delivered to Flint, where lead contamination impacted nearly 100,000 people.



SUPPORT FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS

To raise awareness, Ohio State's Sexual Violence Committee (SVC) and the college collected donations and made teal and denim ribbons to support OSU's Sexual Violence Awareness Week last April. A crowd-funded campaign called "Buckeye Soup" later raised nearly \$600 for a walk to honor survivors. The college joined other Ohio State and local organizations to host a conversation about sexual violence on university campuses and screen the film "The Hunting Ground."

PRIDE PARADE

Less than a week after the violent attack at Pulse nightclub in Orlando, Florida, college faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends united to march in the Columbus Pride Parade. The group wore Pride T-shirts and carried a banner themed "Love is Love. Stop the Hate," which is periodically displayed in front of Stillman Hall. The group joined Brutus Buckeye, Ohio State President Michael V. Drake and thousands of other supporters.



BLACK LIVES MATTER

Last April, after Freddie Gray died in police custody in Baltimore, Maryland, College of Social Work faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends joined a BLM march calling for racial justice. The group wore BLM T-shirts and carried a banner, which is periodically displayed in front of Stillman Hall. In the summer, as a further sign of support, BLM T-shirts were hung in the windows of the building. Participation was led by Dean Tom Gregoire, who thought it was important for the college to "walk our talk" and provide a demonstration of concern and support that went beyond conversation.



CULTURAL COMPETENCE WORKSHOP

In collaboration with Ohio State's College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, the College of Social Work hosted a workshop on race relations in the 21st century. Author and presenter Caprice Hollins, Psy.D., helped attendees develop a

common framework to understand cultural competence and the work needed to effectively engage across cultures.

CONTINUING THE CONVERSATION SERIES

To address frustration and anger caused by racially charged shootings across the nation, the College of Social Work hosted several public forums as part of its "Continuing the Conversation" series. The "Speak Outs" were open to the public and provided a safe, respectful, moderated environment for those conversations to take place.



SUPPORT FOR VETERANS

USA Today ranks Ohio State as the best university in the nation for veterans, and the College of Social Work has undoubtedly had a hand in earning that spot. With 75 veterans in the college, its enrollment is highest among Ohio State's 15 colleges. In addition, the college offers various initiatives, including the Student Veterans Advocacy Program, to help veterans transition from military life to academic and civilian life. Next year, continuing education workshops will be offered to help social



workers stay abreast of the latest veterans-related issues, and internships at the Chalmers P. Wylie VA Ambulatory Care Center will increase from five to 20 slots. One of Dean Gregoire's goals is to make Ohio State the destination for people who want to work with veterans as social workers. Overall about 2,000 veterans and military students are on Ohio State campuses.

NEW CHIEF DIVERSITY OFFICER

In early 2016, the college appointed Dr. Carla Curtis as its first CDO. Curtis and a workgroup are enhancing a supportive climate that reflects the college's commitment to diversity.

SOCIAL CHANGE LIVES HERE

The College of Social Work is inspiring others to take a stand through its new advocacy campaign, "Social Change Lives Here."

The campaign, which kicked off in August, features yard signs, T-shirts and hoodies, buttons, the hashtag #justice4all, tours, a Buckeye Funder for the Advocacy Fund and other events and marketing strategies still in the works online and on and off campus. The timing of the campaign, especially the launch of the yard signs, coincided with the recent election.

"Rather than taking a political position, it's our chance to say, instead, that we're a component for change," says Tareya Jefferies, assistant director of alumni giving and alumni engagement. "You'll see these signs in people's yards and know that person is interested in social change or is perhaps even a social worker."

The college hopes the campaign will connect and inspire the community, not just in Columbus, but across all 50 states in which its alumni reside. The goal is also to increase understanding of how individuals can get involved and what social workers do.

"Of course we hope it will be effective in increasing our visibility too," Jefferies says. "But it's also about helping people determine how they can be a part of change. We want people to ask themselves, how can I be effective, how can I be involved? And we want to hear their stories of engaging in social change."

The idea is to bring awareness to such issues as poverty, sexual assault, race and inequality, LGBTQ rights and food security and closely examine what the college and people connected to it are doing to make an impact.



"You don't normally see places as big as the College of Social Work taking a stance and being involved with these types of issues. We want the campaign to spark constructive dialogue and action," Jefferies says. "If that happens on any level, we've done what we set out to do."



**Want to support advocacy?
Look for me in an Ohio State
email on February 14!**

Training for the game of LiFE

Camp teaches youth to apply social skills on and off athletic field

To the casual observer, these youth look like any other campers. School-age kids run and play in open fields, learning and refining athletic skills. They engage in friendly competition, vying for coveted attention of the counselors.

But the campers who are part of Ohio State's LiFEsports Initiative (short for Learning in Fitness and Education through Sports) are part of a bigger mission—one not easily detected. As the mission statement of LiFEsports reads, it aims to “Enhance the quality of youth development, sport and recreational programs through service and outreach, teaching and learning, and research, thereby increasing positive developmental outcomes for youth.”

LiFEsports is a partnership led by the College of Social Work and Department of Athletics and involves more than 15 different departments or units across Ohio State's campus.

Professor Dawn Anderson-Butcher is executive director for teaching/learning and research for LiFEsports and has been a leader within the initiative since 2008. LiFEsports is a perfect fit for her research



Dawn Anderson-Butcher, Jerry Davis, Rebecca Wade-Mdivanian and Luke O'Quinn

interests, which focus on positive youth development in various social settings, such as schools, after-school programs and sports.

“We regularly research what works at LiFEsports, using our findings to refine programming to ensure we are maximizing contributions to social and life skill outcomes,” Anderson-Butcher says.

Camp curriculum uses sports to teach key social skills: self-control, effort, teamwork and social responsibility (S.E.T.S.). The camp also teaches sports skills specific

to basketball, football, lacrosse, health & fitness, soccer, dance, softball, tennis, swimming, baseball, ultimate frisbee and volleyball. Youth develop skills but also learn to apply their S.E.T.S. as they play.

Each summer, about 600 campers between the ages of 9 and 14 participate in LiFEsports. More than 90 percent are African American or multiracial, and about 80 percent live at 200 percent of poverty level or below. Anderson-Butcher says reaching this age group is important.

“Young adolescence is when a lot of kids drop out of sports, as well as a time when youth are exposed to increasing risks,” she says. “About 55 percent of our young people come back year after year, which is really great because we are able to have long-term relationships and impact. We know through the science that these kinds of relationships contribute to better outcomes.”

What later became known as the LiFEsports Initiative has its origins in an outreach program developed at Ohio State about 40 years ago and funded through the National Youth Sport Program. After NYSP funding ended in 2006, the College of Social

Work and the Department of Athletics partnered to develop the current initiative, which has become a national model for youth development programs and an institute for teaching and research.

Students and staff from the Colleges of Dentistry, Nursing, Optometry, Education and Human Ecology, Social Work and Pharmacy, as well as those from OSU Sports Medicine/Athletic Training and the Office of Outreach and Engagement, provide services and education for campers each summer.

Many paid camp staff are also Ohio State students, says Rebecca Wade-Mdivanian, director of operations for LiFEsports. She adds that many of these students have gone on to careers influenced by their experiences in LiFEsports.

“I really enjoy seeing where their careers go,” Wade-Mdivanian says. “Many of them have chosen careers working with kids living in poverty or kids with not as much access to services.”

The LiFEsports Initiative houses two outreach programs—the summer camp and the Youth Leadership Academy (YLA) for 15- to 18-year-olds. Led by Program

64% of campers improved their perceived social skills over the course of the summer camp.

Coordinator Luke O'Quinn, YLA is a leadership development program with a focus on college and career readiness and serves about 60 high school students from urban Columbus.

“YLA has grown tremendously over the last two years in number of participants and the quality of our content. It has become a program that our campers aim to join as they grow up through LiFEsports,” says O'Quinn, who was one of the first students involved

with LiFEsports and now works full time with the initiative. “I've been lucky enough to meet campers when they were 11 or 12 years old while I was a camp counselor, and now I work with them in YLA. It's heartwarming to see how they matured and stuck with the program, so now I can help them reach their college and career goals.”

There are also field placements and teaching and learning coursework in LiFEsports and in other youth development settings across the Columbus area. Two Pickerington elementary schools will incorporate LiFEsports curricula into their before- and after-school program, and After-School All-Stars Ohio has also adopted the programming.

“One of our goals is to influence other youth development work and best practices around the country. It's great to see existing programs infusing evidence-based curricula,” Anderson-Butcher says. “Youth sport programs are intentionally focusing on building social and life skills because of what we're learning. This enhances outcomes for young people, especially those who are most vulnerable.”

MEET THE 2016 COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES



Each year, the College of Social Work honors alumni who have gone above and beyond to make a difference in the world. These leaders were nominated by our alumni—more than 13,000 social workers living in the United States and abroad.

Please join us in honoring these inspiring ambassadors.

Jimmy Portner, BSSW '05, MSW '07

Winner of the Distinguished Recent Alum Award, Portner was appointed program coordinator of an integrated dual disorder treatment (IDDT) program while working at Southeast, Inc. in 2009. In its first year, this IDDT program served approximately 20 clients with both severe mental illness and addiction diagnoses, resulting in a \$1.4 million reduction in state hospital psychiatric inpatient and crisis service costs. Three years later, Portner was recruited to develop the first IDDT program in the Veterans Health Administration (VHA), which won the IDDT Champion Award from Case Western Reserve University's Center for Evidence-Based Practices in 2014.



David R. Grove, BA '78, MSW '83

Winner of the Distinguished Career Award, Grove began his career at Catholic Social Services in Columbus. He received training as a family therapist at the Family Therapy Institute of Washington, D.C., where he was supervised by founders Jay Haley and Cloë Madanes for three years. He later became the clinical director of the Wilson Child Guidance Clinic and met regularly with Haley for individual supervision and training through 1993. Grove obtained supervisor status in the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy and worked with Haley and Neil Schiff for two years on the mini "Schizophrenia Project." Grove has helped organize, co-develop, co-research and co-disseminate the Integrative Family and Systems Treatment (IFAST) project for more than 15 years.



Annette Jefferson, BS '74, MA '79, PhD '96

Winner of the Distinguished Career Award, Jefferson is a community activist who, after retiring from a long career in education and roles in nonprofit development, now serves as the board chair of the Greater Hilltop Area Shalom Zone. Public education and the nonprofit sector were training grounds for Jefferson's professional development and community involvement. As a long-time resident of the Hilltop, she has been a tireless advocate for her community as well as an organizer and recognized Hilltop advocate. In 2001, she received the prestigious Jefferson Award in Columbus for being a super volunteer and unsung hero in the community.



Ami Peacock, MSW '93

Winner of the Distinguished Career Award, Peacock serves as manager of the Mount Carmel West Healthy Living Center, where she created and developed bilingual health and wellness services for vulnerable communities, especially those facing infant mortality, obesity and chronic disease issues. She also created community bilingual outreach prevention programs at Big Brothers Big Sisters, St. Vincent Family Centers and the MetroHealth Cancer Care Center in Cleveland, Ohio. Peacock has served as a hurricane relief social worker in Miami, Florida, and lived in Argentina where she taught English to youth while doing community development work. She also serves as a Franklinton Area commissioner.



James (Jim) Stahler, MSW '76

Winner of the Distinguished Career Award, Stahler began his career in 1970 as a protective services caseworker for Miami County Children Services and was later named executive director of SCAN (Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect) at Montgomery County Children Services Board. In 2000, Stahler retired after a 21-year career with the United Way of the Greater Dayton Area, having served as director of public policy and campaign director. In recognition of his service and retirement, the Dayton City Commission declared April 1, 2000, as "Jim Stahler Day."



Patricia Kay Werk, MSW '70

Winner of the Distinguished Career Award, Werk worked nearly 38 years at Netcare Access. She developed and managed the Netcare Access Community Crisis Response Team (providing on-scene mental health assistance as requested by police for family trauma) and Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM), which assisted with resiliency of public safety forces and other organizations encountering traumatic events. Throughout her career, Werk developed a continuum of trauma treatment services. She was an essential part of the early training efforts for Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) as one of the original 12 individuals from the United States entrusted by Dr. Francine Shapiro with training mental health professionals. Werk continues as a consultant for EMDR clinicians. She is also an approved trainer for the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation.



Going the distance

"Seeing how others live, what their motivations are, why they do what they do—this all adds to your toolbox. Sure, being taken out of your comfort zone will challenge you at that precise moment, but what you make out of that experience is what creates new connections and equips you to better understand the people you work with."

Samantha Bergstein, MSW student
India 2016

It's no wonder that Education Abroad is such a strong focus at the College of Social Work. The comment above just scratches the surface when it comes to the passionate reflections students shared about their transformative experiences in Nicaragua, Australia and India.

The college's Education Abroad programs give students a more intimate experience with other cultures each spring and summer. Students learn about way of life, outreach and community centers, and the social structure and concerns of those living abroad. The Australia and Nicaragua programs run for two weeks, and the India program for about three and a half weeks.

While Australia's program focused on child welfare and children's mental health, Nicaragua's centered on human rights and other social constructs. The India program concentrated on health and mental health services in the rapidly developing country.

Associate Professor Scottye Cash was the lead faculty adviser, and PhD student Erin Klumb and Director of Field Education Elon Simms served as co-resident directors



Students in the Education Abroad India program show their Buckeye Pride and participate in a rite of passage ceremony.



on the most recent Australia trip, which included 12 students. Australia exposed students to the Aboriginal culture and the impact of colonization on this population. The history of the Aboriginal people and their interactions with social services served as a reminder for students to be culturally sensitive, respectful of each other's differences and to celebrate this population's resiliency. The group was also able to explore the technology initiatives aimed at increasing mental health literacy and decreasing mental health stigma. Cash has also been able to forge research partnerships with a few agencies in the area.

Simms says the most engaging part of the trip was working alongside international agencies while comparing their processes to those in the United States. Doing so, he

says, helped foster a sense of collaboration and comradery.

"At the end of the day, the skills gained in the field are transferable," Simms says. "It's good to be able to get practice and help achieve change, but these trips help us learn beyond the classroom or the border by comparing our local settings and seeing how far what we've learned can really go. It's not just about helping others, but also about creating policies that can help more people in the long term."

Taking place for the third year this past May, the trip to Nicaragua included multiple discussions for students and

Australia



In Australia, Education Abroad students take a trip to a national park to enjoy the scenery and meditate.



participants to critically analyze and internalize their experiences.

India, the college's oldest Education Abroad program of over 20 years, allowed students to learn about the culture by attending events like a Hindu marriage or a rite of passage (i.e., a celebration of puberty, transition into manhood or a naming ceremony). They also visited ancient temples, mosques and churches.

"The India Education Abroad is a landmark program in teaching students to become aware of global diversity and their own role in navigating that terrain," says Associate Professor Shantha Balaswamy, who has served as the program's resident director for nearly two decades. "No amount of classroom exercises and reading can teach the feeling of being a minority or embracing diversity than a single visit to a country where the students are a minority. This makes a lasting effect on students' lives."

The India program allows students to become immersed in the culture through experiential field activities and structured classroom lectures. The lectures cover India's religions, history, family structures, alternate medical practices, health, mental health practices and social-economic intersection.

All of the trips included visits with different area agencies and social workers. And in Nicaragua, students had an opportunity to live with local families for a few days.

Having served as the lead faculty adviser for the trip to Nicaragua, Tamara Davis, associate dean for academic affairs, says the most important goal is for students to experience something that will change their lives and their perspectives.

"Studying abroad helps students grow personally and professionally, and as they reflect



on their experience, they become better social workers," she adds.

Theresa Early, associate professor and director of international programs for the college, has traveled with students to India, Mexico and Nicaragua over the years.

"We want students to have an increased global and cultural competence and a greater understanding of other cultures," Early says, "because as social workers, we often work with clients who are different from ourselves in many ways. Our Education Abroad programs help sensitize students and enable them to embrace diverse populations of clients."

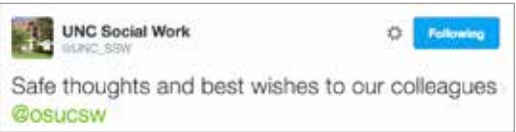
While all three Education Abroad programs are housed at the college and include social work students, they attract students across all disciplines, including nursing, public health, pre-medicine, global health, neuroscience, psychology, dietetics, biology, human development and family science and many more. The enriching cultures and experiences the programs offer are invaluable for all students, particularly those working in human service fields.



Students celebrate diversity and soak up the culture during the Education Abroad Nicaragua trip.

Thanks for the tweets!

This past year has brought about many changes that affect the landscape of social work. With more than 2,000 followers on Twitter and 3,000 on Facebook, the college maintains a vital and direct line of communication with our students, faculty, staff, alumni, friends and supporters. Social media gives us the opportunity to address current issues and, more important, to hear from you. Keep up the chatter!



THE COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK—PROMOTING SOCIAL CHANGE IN THE WORLD!

- Our diverse faculty has collaborations or research projects in 21 countries, spanning five continents
- A single Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on human trafficking reached more than 30,000 people in 187 nations
- 20 online courses, offered across all five campuses, reach more than 2,300 students
- Three iTunes U courses have attracted almost 30,000 people
- More than 13,000 alumni are spread across all 50 states and 30 countries
- We are ranked in the top 10 among public universities
- Our online social work classes are offered in 48 states

But for YOU...

The College of Social Work is able to create transformational change in the lives of its students and faculty and in the communities in which we live and work. We are proud of our fellow Social Work Buckeyes who enhance individual and community well-being, celebrate difference and promote social and economic justice for vulnerable populations. Recently, the university closed its *But for Ohio State* campaign, exceeding the \$2.5 billion goal by more than \$500 million. Of that total, the College of Social Work raised an unprecedented \$8.4 million, reflecting 130 percent of our goal. This success and the impact we are able to make is because of you. YOU are the change. YOU make the difference. And for that we are forever thankful for your friendship and loyalty to our mission and to the future of social work.

"BUT FOR OHIO STATE" CAMPAIGN UNIVERSITY GOAL



"BUT FOR OHIO STATE" CAMPAIGN COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK GOAL



We'd love to hear from you, too!



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