

THE STILLMAN

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK / FALL 2017



OHIO STATE: A CHAMPION OF VETERANS

College of Social Work leads effort
to support student veterans



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK

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THE STILL MAN

A note from the dean

Welcome to the latest version of *The Stillman*. Life is good at Stillman Hall, and we are excited to share with you a few highlights of our work here at The Ohio State University College of Social Work.

As Veterans Day approaches, our cover story describes our commitment to veterans and their families. We have increased our capacity to respond to the needs of our many students who are veterans, and to prepare students to work with the diverse needs of our veterans and their families. In this edition, we share our work and introduce you to some amazing champions.

Our research makes a difference. Ohio and surrounding states are ground zero for our nation's devastating opioid crisis. As the crisis destroys families and communities, scholars at the College of Social Work are working with community practitioners to develop "rapid response" interventions that can be quickly deployed to stem this crisis, and studying the impact of interventions to support families and children impacted by addiction. Our college also has a significant role in our university's interdisciplinary response to the epidemic.

A leader in substance misuse prevention, our Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Drug Misuse, Prevention and Recovery has new leadership, and we'll introduce you to its new director and program manager. We also have several faculty highlights, including research by a faculty member on equine-assisted therapy with older adults, and an undergraduate student and alumna whose honors theses were presented at Ohio State's prestigious Denman Undergraduate Research Forum.

Our alumni highlights are plenty. You'll learn about an alumna whose work in social enterprise has revolutionized the agency where she is the COO; you'll meet this year's Hall of Fame inductees; and you'll learn about another alumna who is the CEO of Women in Government in our nation's capital.

Speaking of Washington, D.C., I hope you enjoy the story about our D.C. Fly-In. Our college collaborated with the University of Alabama's School of Social Work to take students to The Hill. While there, they learned how to advocate for legislation, after which they had an opportunity to do so in meetings with the Ohio delegation. Training our students to engage in the political process is more important now than ever before, so we're making a return trip with students this spring.

We are having fun, too. Our 2017 Alumni Hall of Fame Ceremony and Homecoming Tailgate were both in October. This is such a wonderful time to honor just a few of our many social work



colleagues, and then spend some time at the tailgate catching up with many of you before the Buckeyes' next win. We've included a few snapshots that capture our Buckeye spirit.

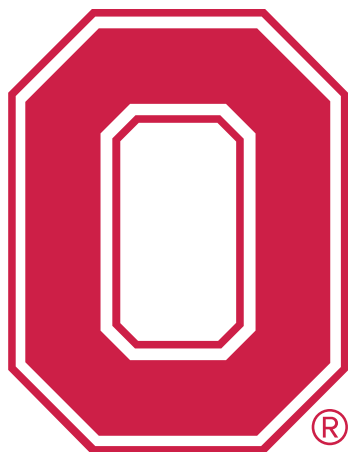
I hope that wherever this publication finds you, it finds you doing well. These are trying times in our country and across our planet. Society needs now what the social work profession espouses: a commitment to the vulnerable and oppressed; the courage to act when we see hatred, racism or discrimination; and the capacity to extend kindness and compassion to all, regardless of our differences. Until our paths cross, I wish you well.

Best wishes,

Tom Gregoire, MSW, PhD

Dean, The Ohio State University College of Social Work

Students learn role social workers play in politics during fly-in



When it comes to politics, social work may not be the first profession that comes to mind, but for the College of Social Work, the two go hand in hand. As a way to apply what students learn in the classroom to real life, Director of Career Services Katie Justice and former Director of Field Education Elon Simms initiated the college's first D.C. Fly-In last March.

Teaming up with the University of Alabama's School of Social Work, the D.C. Fly-In included 15 students from Ohio State and 35 from Alabama. All 50 students visited the nation's capital with one goal in mind: to witness first-hand how the profession can play a part in politics.

Students witnessed the inner-workings of the nation's capital up close, meeting with members of Congress and alumni from their universities. The trip provided a two-day window for students to speak directly with legislators and to learn about policy advocacy at the national level.

"As social workers, we know what it's like on the front lines. We know what's going on in our agencies and communities," Justice says. "The education and training we receive

as social workers make us an asset in politics. Addiction, child welfare and health care are just some of the areas where social work can help."

Ohio State MSW student Ahmed Hosni felt the same way. "Social work plays a vital role in politics," he says. "A social worker is charged with being a champion for the poor and vulnerable."

Alabama MSW student Katie New adds, "Social work lays the foundation for client advocacy in politics. Social workers have the ability to bridge the gap between injustice and action by actively engaging in the political landscape of our country."

The two-day trip to the nation's capital included meetings with Representatives Joyce Beatty (OH), Terri Sewell (AL) and Senator Sherrod Brown (OH). There was also a face-to-face meeting with Senator Luther Strange (AL) who spoke about understanding different viewpoints when it came to wanting to make change.

Beatty and Sewell preached a similar message, telling the students anything was possible when it came to the field of social work. "In your field of working, the number



one thing for you is to finish school and to use your voice,” Beatty said.

“Students got some hands-on work in politics and came away with a lot of new experiences,” Justice says. “They received training on policy analysis and left D.C. with a better understanding and knowledge of what it’s like to present and advocate for a bill on Capitol Hill. I think the trip inspired them.”

Hosni agreed. “I left feeling assured that macro-level social work, possibly in politics, is the route I want to take in my career,” he says. “After realizing the amount of change a person can influence as a social worker with a macro focus, I’ve started envisioning myself in a leadership position more, where I used to focus on clinical work as a micro-level service provider.”

Ohio State MSW student Becky Phillips was able to use the skills she learned during the Fly-In at a National Association of Social Workers (NASW) training. “I brought elements of the training back to my internship at NASW-Ohio, and I used them as part of the training I gave to over 600 Ohio social workers during our annual Advocacy Day,” she says. Phillips added that the experiences from the trip solidified her interest in policy development, implementation and advocacy.

With the first D.C. Fly-In now in the books, the college is looking ahead to 2018.

“We already have students and faculty asking about next year,” Justice says, noting that the college is hoping to expand next year’s event to four days. “Thanks to the



creativity and hard work of many people from both Ohio State and Alabama, our first trip was a huge success,” she says, adding, “we’re looking forward to further strengthening our collaboration with the University of Alabama at our 2018 D.C. Fly-In.”



Putting a crisis in context

CSW is connecting the pieces to solve a complex problem

Social workers have been coming in contact with the pain and loss of addiction for a long time. As case managers, chemical dependency counselors, child welfare workers and advocates, social workers have faced addiction consequences throughout their profession. But as drug overdoses continue to be the leading cause of accidental death in Ohio and in the nation, social workers are being called to practice and collaborate in new ways.

The College of Social Work is playing a critical role in responding to opioid addiction by bringing much needed context to the conversation. Going beyond a focus on overdoses, prescribing or illicit supply, its faculty and staff are steering the conversation toward the people affected and the environments that shape them.

College of Social Work Awarded \$3 Million Grant to Address Substance Abuse in Ohio

Recently, the college received a \$3 million grant to address substance abuse problems in Ohio—one of the largest grants ever awarded in its 100-year history. Drs. Bridget Freisthler (project lead), Katie Maguire-Jack and Susan Yoon secured the grant, which is funded by the Children's Bureau of the Administration for Children and Families at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The grant will support regional partnership intervention activities in Ohio's Fairfield and Pickaway counties to reduce child abuse and neglect among families who have substance use problems. For Pickaway County, 100 percent of substance-involved families were due to opioid (including heroin) misuse, while 58 percent of all substance-involved cases in Fairfield County involved opioids.

Freisthler, Maguire-Jack, Yoon and public child welfare administrators will partner to provide support to families involved in the child welfare system due to substance abuse in order to get parents into treatment and increase permanency and well-being for children. Key partners include Fairfield County Job and Family Services, Pickaway County Job and Family Services, Pickaway County Juvenile Court and Prosecutor's Office, Fairfield County Juvenile Court, Berger Health System, OhioGuidestone and Integrated Services.

"We are very excited about this collaborative opportunity and the funding to implement evidence-based interventions for families

affected by opioid use in the child welfare system," says Freisthler, professor and associate dean of research. "The effects of the opiate crisis on children whose parents are misusing or abusing substances have often been overlooked because the solutions have primarily focused on reducing overdose deaths. This award will provide much-needed financial support for services for these children and families."

Ohio START and the Family Support Toolkit

Freisthler is also leading the college's efforts to understand and mitigate the impact of addiction on families, not just individuals. "So much of the conversation has been about overdoses, but that's not the whole problem," Freisthler says. "We have been so focused on events in the moment, we were missing a significant problem affecting almost all of Ohio."

Freisthler and her team of faculty (Drs. Katie Maguire-Jack, Alicia Bunker and Susan Yoon) are working with the Ohio Attorney General's Office to evaluate the effectiveness of Ohio's START program (Sobriety, Treatment and Reducing Trauma). Modeled after effective programs in Cleveland and Kentucky, START will bring together child protective services, peer mentors, the courts and behavioral health and treatment providers in 18 Ohio counties to work closely with families whose children have been abused or neglected due to parental addiction.

"In some preliminary work, we have learned that a spike in overdoses is often followed by a rise in instances of child abuse and neglect," Freisthler says. "Rapid response services have an opportunity to reduce family trauma by directing resources to children we know are in the counties at the highest risk."

Freisthler is also overseeing development of the Family Support Opiate Overdose Toolkit. In collaboration with the College of Pharmacy, social work students will develop and assemble graphic and video resources to support people dealing with addiction in their families. Through informant interviews and interdisciplinary collaboration, these students will build a resource that covers lifesaving information, including how to administer the overdose-reversing drug Naloxone, and link family members to treatment providers. "This is a great opportunity for social work students interested in macro practice to build a critical resource for our communities," Freisthler says.





Prevention, education and community engagement

The college is working to situate the opiate crisis in a broader context of addiction prevention and recovery. Cindy Clouner, managing director of Ohio State's Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Drug Misuse Prevention and Recovery (HECAOD), works across academic units and disciplines to build screening and recovery tools for promoting student health at universities. The HECAOD also houses a web-based learning collaborative for sharing resources, training and outreach.

"We want to be thoughtful about prevention on a continuum," Clouner says. "This can't just be a six-week program when you first get to campus, or something that's only available when you get in trouble.

We need to start young and give students the tools they need to be successful."

3 Lisa Durham, the college's assistant dean of strategic initiatives and community engagement, has been acting as a bridge to facilitate work happening at Ohio State and in the community. By participating on county task forces and hosting educational opportunities for community practitioners, she is helping providers and policymakers see beyond biases about addiction.

"We still see so much judgment and stigma around people with addictions," Durham says. "We need to be spreading what we know about the science of addiction, influence of family systems and community context. This problem can't be solved unless we are looking beyond the individual."

This fall, the college's annual Community Engagement and Action Conference focused on "Opiates, Addiction and Action: Building Recovery for Ohio" to provide best practices from across the state for addressing the opioid epidemic. More than 300 people attended and an additional 300 were on the waiting list. The college will provide additional training to community practitioners in the upcoming months and is designing a comprehensive post-graduate certificate program on opioids and addiction.

Recovery is possible

4 In August, Dean Tom Gregoire participated in a meeting with U.S. Senator Rob Portman (OH) during the senator's visit to the Wexner Medical Center to discuss the

university's response to the opioid crisis. Reflecting on this meeting, Gregoire emphasized how recovery is most likely to happen when we think broadly about the resources our communities need to thrive.

"The opioid epidemic is experienced as an acute crisis and also a chronic illness," Gregoire says.

"Long-term recovery is possible, common, and most likely to occur when treatment includes addressing basic needs like housing, employment, recovery coaching and mental health services."

Through collaboration, research and community engagement, that is exactly what the college is doing.

New HECAOD leadership, same mission

Jim Lange understands importance of curbing alcohol, drug misuse

It could be argued that the current opioid epidemic was foreseeable. The United States accounts for 80 percent of all opioids consumed worldwide, and 38 percent of the population has a valid prescription for them. Americans have a self-diagnosing and self-prescribing culture, said Dr. Kenneth Hale, clinical professor in Ohio State's College of Pharmacy and associate director of the Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Drug Misuse Prevention and Recovery (HECAOD)—and that leads to medication misuse.

The HECAOD—a partnership of Ohio State's College of Social Work, Pharmacy and Office of Student Life—aims to deliver data-driven interventions that change students' perceptions and behavior toward drug and alcohol use. The center, with its home in the College of Social Work, is continuing its mission under new leadership at a time when marijuana legalization and opioid misuse are part of the national conversation.

Director Jim Lange takes over from center founder John Clapp, who brought the HECAOD to Ohio State in 2014. Funding from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation allowed Clapp to re-establish the center after the U.S. Department of Education discontinued its support. Lange is a faculty member in San Diego State University's (SDSU) Graduate School of Public Health and an internationally recognized researcher in alcohol and drug misuse.

Lange is also SDSU's prevention coordinator, a role that lends itself to the HECAOD's mission—to support prevention professionals nationwide. "You really need someone who is fluent in research and intervention to do the best job of making evidence-based approaches useable for the

varied campus professionals who are charged with addressing these issues," says Lange, who will be based at SDSU.

New managing director Cindy Clouser will be Lange's eyes, ears and hands on campus. She brings with her a wealth of knowledge as former prevention specialist of the Ohio College Initiative to Enhance Student Wellness, a collaborative of 54 Ohio colleges and universities housed within the Prevention Action Alliance that partners with the HECAOD to reduce alcohol and drug misuse.

"That kind of partnership is important because with that network we can diffuse things quickly," Hale says. "It's like having a laboratory."

Also serving at the HECAOD as director of recovery is Ahmed Hosni, who is also the program manager for Ohio State's Collegiate Recovery Community (CRC) in the Office of Student Life. The CRC helps students maintain their recovery during college life. Dyesha Darby works as a prevention specialist at the HECAOD.

Lange doesn't expect to change the mission, only carry the baton further. That means continuing to offer member institutions ScreenU, a web-based screening, intervention and treatment tool. ScreenU helps students determine their risk level for substance misuse and their motivations toward it, while providing strategies to reduce their risk and connect them with local resources.

The HECAOD is also adding to its webinars for prevention professionals. In spring 2017, it launched one on marijuana that was based on the experiences of colleges in states that have legalized it. The center will also add webinars on prescription drug misuse



Lange



Hale



Clouser



Hosni



Darby

and recovery this academic year.

Having these types of resources are imperative to campuses, especially since the HECAOD found that 50 percent of them have prevention programming budgets of \$4,000 or less. "That is a very small amount of money being allocated to address an issue that greatly affects student success and retention," Clouser says.

Another issue is that many campus prevention coordinators are new to their positions or have recently graduated and often don't know where to turn for help.

"It's important that the center is as viable as possible so the coordinators can find the research and technical assistance to guide them," Lange says.

Thanks for the tweets!

With nearly 2,500 followers on Twitter and nearly 4,000 on Facebook, the college maintains a vital and direct line of communication with our students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends. Social media gives us the opportunity to address current issues and, more important, to hear from you. Keep up the chatter!



We'd love to hear from you, too!



College of Social Work leads push to support military veterans at Ohio State

When more and more veterans began choosing majors in social work several years ago, Ohio State's College of Social Work took notice.

"We wondered if we were doing the best that we could for them," says Dean Tom Gregoire. In a meeting of students, veterans, professors and Veterans Administration staff, they asked two questions: How are we doing? How could we do better?

That was the beginning of a greater effort to support veterans in the college and to train social work students to help them in the general population.

"Veterans often struggle with the transition of becoming a civilian and becoming a college student," says Colonel Mike Carrell, assistant vice provost and director of Ohio State's Office of Military and Veterans Services. "It's a challenge, and the College of Social Work has embraced that challenge and run with it. They've been leaders in this for the entire university."

USA Today, in fact, ranked Ohio State the best college for veterans in 2016 and 2017, a ranking that evaluated where veterans were most likely to thrive during school and after graduating.

A number of veterans major in social work, a good fit for individuals who have dedicated themselves to serve, said Carrell, a 23-year veteran of the Air Force.

To help them, the college has a part-time advocate who is both a student and a veteran.

"It's someone to help them navigate this big system, to help with curriculum questions, to find resources for their families and to help them affiliate with other veterans," Gregoire says.

Most recently that's been Colin Winter (BSSW '17), who had two tours in Iraq under his belt when he came to Ohio State from the Army.

With Winter's help, the college has hosted events for student veterans and their families to meet faculty, take tours and meet each other.

"We want to make sure families are comfortable with what we're doing at the college," Winter says. "Families are a big component for veterans."

When Winter created a nonprofit organization to help non-military students better understand how war affects veterans, the college helped from the beginning with contributions, sponsorships and guidance.

Often, veterans want to serve other veterans, and Ohio State's



social work program helps them—and other students—train through its curriculum and internships at the Chalmers P. Wylie VA Ambulatory Care Center in Columbus.

"What we're finding is that after they've been deployed, veterans know how difficult it is and they want to give back," says Lisa Durham, assistant dean of strategic initiatives and community engagement. She said 20 students from the college intern at the Columbus VA each year, working two or three full days a week for nine months.

"It's a great partnership," Gregoire says. "The VA really values it, and we love working with them."



Twenty social work students intern at the Columbus VA, including this group who posed for a photo during a break in training.

Ohio State military facts

- The Ohio State military community is 2,250 strong and includes veterans, active duty, National Guard, Reserve, ROTC and family members.
- The majority have deployed and experienced combat.
- 60 percent are first generation students.
- The average military undergrad is 26 years old.
- More than 1,400 faculty and staff are veterans or currently serving in the Guard or Reserve.
- With 42 veterans, the College of Social Work's enrollment is the highest by percentage among Ohio State's 15 colleges.
- Ranked No. 1 college in the U.S. for veterans by *USA Today*.

The college is also reaching out to professionals in the community with a 14-week post-graduate continuing education program, the Advanced Certificate in Serving Veterans and Their Families. The course gives students insights into military culture and how the military life influences mental, emotional, spiritual and physical health.

Using the certificate program as a framework, the college hopes to expand its master's program in fall 2018 to offer a specialized curriculum in working with veterans and their families, Durham said.

Gregoire was quick to point out that social work programs at other universities help veterans, too, but he said the infrastructure at the college and Ohio State supports veterans from the time they come in the door.

"They'll get connected quickly to their peers. There's a name and a face who knows what they've been through, who's going to look out for them. And there's an internship program that makes our students who want to work with veterans extremely well-trained," he says. "There's somebody here for them and an awareness of their needs."

To support our work with veterans, visit giveto.osu.edu and give to the *Veteran Initiatives Fund at the College of Social Work (Fund #316013)*.



Jimmy Portner (center), field instructor for the college, observes a student training exercise at the Columbus VA.



Scholarship grew from admiration, patriotism

Rick Delaney (BS, Business Administration '82) doesn't seek praise for the endowment he and his wife, Dr. Carol Greco-Delaney (BS, Zoology, '83 and MD '87), established to help benefit military veterans in 2015.

"That attention should go to the military men and women who have served and those who continue to represent our country," he says as he talked about the Sean and Anna Delaney Endowed Scholarship in Veteran Services for the College of Social Work at Ohio State.

"I have no personal connection with the military," adds Rick, a senior account executive for the WestRock packaging and visual display company. "But I believe in striving to support our living patriots. The depth of what military members sacrifice is courageous. We need to help lift them up when needed, and it's something I felt an obligation to fulfill."



The Delaney Family

A conversation with Dean Tom Gregoire planted the seed for the endowment.

"During an early morning conversation regarding veterans, service members, their families and their transition after service, Tom shared the infrastructure in place at Ohio State, and how the College of Social Work fit in with today's master plan," Delaney says. "Tom talked about the high number of veterans at Ohio State and how the university continues to focus on mental and physical recovery, peace of mind and hope for these veterans. The deeper the discussion, the more I felt inspired to advocate for veterans, and to lift up students and staff who anchor our emotional, physical and spiritual support teams in helping veterans and their families."

The Delaneys know something about that. Their daughter, Sean, 28, has a Master of Social Work from Ohio State and is director of wellness counseling at the Columbus School for Girls. The couple named the scholarship after her and her younger sister, Anna, 19, a sophomore at the University of Dayton majoring in human rights studies.

The first of its kind, the Sean and Anna Delaney Endowed Scholarship in Veteran Services is a one-year, full tuition scholarship that provides support to an enrolled student in the MSW program who demonstrates a commitment to working with veterans after graduation. The first scholarship was awarded this fall.

Social work grad brings veteran experience to all Ohio State students

When Colin Winter (BSSW '17) walked into the College of Social Work offices as an Ohio State sophomore to discuss a possible major, he immediately felt at home.

"Coming from military service, I knew I wanted to help people, specifically veterans," says Winter, who spent six years in the U.S. Army after high school. "The whole college has been super supportive of veterans."

Winter has given as much as he's received, becoming the college's student advocate for veterans and establishing the nonprofit organization Run Down The Demons to help veterans.

"I did it on a whim in 2015, when I was president of Ohio State's Vets for Vets student organization," he explains. "There's such a disconnect between students who are veterans and those who aren't, and I wanted to do something to help both groups understand each other."



Colin Winter

The college immediately stepped up, agreeing to co-sponsor the Run Down The Demons 5K Obstacle Run/Walk Fundraiser, a mix of physical and mental challenges. Winter said participants in the yearly event get a small sense of what it's like to have post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety or depression (PTSD) as they encounter unknown obstacles and random mental checkpoints, where they're quizzed on posted information about veteran mental-health issues.



Participants tackle the 2017 Run Down The Demons 5K Obstacle Run/Walk Fundraiser



About 300 people have participated each of the past three years.

That event, plus a golf outing held the past two years, and other resources have helped the group raise nearly \$100,000 since September 11, 2015.

In the long term, Winter hopes the organization can create a free mental health clinic for veterans, but in the short term, the goal is simpler: to help people working with veterans understand them better.

That's why the money raised so far is funding the college's student advocate position, as well as start-up costs for the college's Advanced Certificate in Serving Veterans and Their Families, an 14-week online program addressing military culture and its impact on veterans and their families. The professional development course is taught through the Continuing Education Office in the college; the second cohort began this fall.

Winter, who deployed to Iraq twice during his military service, knows from experience how much the help is needed for veterans.

"I went through a lot of dark times," says Winter, who now is studying for his Master of Social Work at Ohio State, "but Ohio State was the saving grace for me."



Online certificate gives participants deep insight into veterans' needs

With only a few offered nationwide, a new certificate program at the College of Social Work is proving to be just what many people need to understand the challenges many veterans and their families face.

The unique 14-week online professional development training, complete with CEUs, was piloted in summer 2017 and began again in October.

"There's a lot of research about the challenges that veterans face after completing their service, but it's not something widely recognized outside of the folks who work directly with veterans," says Sara Friedman, continuing education director for the college. "We hope to make the general population more aware of what those challenges are."

To that end, it's no surprise that the college enlisted Dr. Vaughn DeCoster to lead a group of content experts in developing the online curriculum aimed at helping social workers, nurses, therapists and others better understand those challenges.

As an Army Reserve veteran, a clinical social worker and a former Veterans Administration Services employee, DeCoster has a well-rounded view of the hurdles facing veterans and their families as they reintegrate into civilian life. He created several of the curriculum modules himself.

"There are a lot of people who have wonderful intentions about helping veteran and military families who lack a basic understanding of the culture and challenges they face," says DeCoster, social work department chair at the University of Southern Indiana in Evansville. "This course looks at a broad spectrum of how people live with their post-military reality. So many people suffer in silence, and for most veterans, it often takes as much as 10 years before problems reach a point where someone seeks help."

This online program initiative was led by Dean Tom Gregoire and Lisa Durham, assistant dean of strategic initiatives and community engagement, and is expected to be offered twice a year. Visit csw.osu.edu/serving-veterans for more information.

Curriculum objectives:

- Comprehend military structure and culture, gain appreciation for differences between military branches across eras
- Examine readjustment process for veterans and families, factors that help and inhibit from a person-in-the-environment perspective
- Interpret physical strengths, deficits and chronic challenges for both short-term and long-term functioning during military service
- Evaluate common behavioral health issues facing veterans and their families, factors that enhance successful outcomes
- Identify and use resources for veterans and their families



People living with HIV find a champion in Peggy Anderson



“I use my social work skills on a daily basis in managing people, systems and talking with legislators.”

Peggy Anderson
COO, *Equitas Health*



If one moment can change a life, for Peggy Anderson it was witnessing the fear and disgust people showed toward someone with HIV.

During a summer job while an undergraduate at the University of Rio Grande, she worked with a young man living with the disease and was horrified at his treatment. It was during the early 1990s, around the time of Ryan White, the Indiana 13-year-old who was banned from his school for contracting AIDS through a blood transfusion.

“These people need me more than anybody right now,” Anderson told herself.

She’s been with them ever since, spending her entire 20-year career supporting the HIV community after earning her MSW at

Ohio State in 1997. As chief operating officer at Equitas Health, Anderson has become a reliable and relied-upon leader for a health care system that welcomes and serves all but is tailored to the LGBTQ community and those at risk or affected by HIV/AIDS.

She was introduced to the Columbus HIV community during her master’s field placement with the Columbus AIDS Task Force (CATF). In 2011, CATF merged with and took the name of AIDS Resource Center Ohio, based in Dayton, which was renamed Equitas Health last year.

“It was a match made in heaven for me,” Anderson says. “And it spoke to me. The advisers there helped shaped me as a professional, and my time at Ohio State made me think about things in a different



Equitas Health has a pipeline with the College of Social Work. More than 30 alums work for the organization, supporting its mission to serve the HIV and LGBTQ population.

way. I thought I was very open-minded and intuitive about things, but the social work program and one professor in particular, Jim Lantz, helped me expand that.”

Such preparation was key for her journey. She started as a case manager working with HIV patients at CATF, then went to the HIV program at Nationwide Children’s Hospital. But she craved the community work, returning to CATF as director of community services, chief operating officer and then chief executive officer before the merger.

“I was willing to take chances and I’m a bit of a workaholic,” Anderson says. Among her numerous honors is a 2010 Lifetime Achievement Award from NASW Region V. “People would say we need someone to do this thing, and I would say, ‘I’ll take a try at that.’”

She now oversees the operations of 15 offices in 11 cities across Ohio, including three medical clinics and pharmacies (one in Dayton, two in Columbus) that serve more than 7,000 patients. CATF was once on the verge of closing. But with the merger and a business-like approach to building a sustainable organization, Equitas now has more than 300 staff, more than 30 of whom are alumni of the College of Social Work, and \$74 million in revenues.

“I use my social work skills on a daily basis in managing people, systems and talking with legislators,” says Anderson, who also earned a master’s degree in health care administration in 2014 to help the organization as it continues to grow. “It’s a core of who I am as a human being and professional, so even though the work is business oriented, I’m approaching it with a social work mindset.”

Anderson also teaches a budgeting class for the Certificate Program in Leadership in Human Service Management at the college.

Nonprofits learn entrepreneurial spirit in social enterprise program

When people hear the word “enterprise,” they don’t usually think about social work. But the College of Social Work is changing that with the introduction of a one-day training focused on social enterprise and impact investing for nonprofits.

What’s social enterprise? Here are some examples: Goodwill Industries and Habitat for Humanity resell donated goods. Columbus’ Hot Chicken Takeover has two restaurants employing people who experience barriers to the job market. Columbus’ Aunt Flow follows the TOMS model (buy one, give one) with feminine hygiene products. These organizations found a social enterprise model that worked for them, and social work’s executive education program is a nuts and bolts approach to help other nonprofits do the same.

Created for social workers and others in the human services field, the college’s Social Enterprise/Impact Investing Executive Education Program educates attendees on budgeting, investing, legal and tax implications and how to attract foundation funding. It is taught by Tony Wells, an instructor at the Fisher College of Business who started the Columbus-based Tony R. Wells Foundation. The foundation supports nonprofits committed to social innovation with an entrepreneurial mindset. Wells’ mission: chasing profit to do even more good, so to speak.

Alumna Peggy Anderson (MSW ’97), the chief operating officer of Equitas Health, an HIV/AIDS/LGBTQ-focused health care system based in Columbus, understands the concept well. Her organization embraced social enterprise after it opened a pharmacy in its clinic to serve HIV patients. But family members, donors and friends wanted to support the effort by transferring their medications to Equitas Health. Eventually,



three pharmacies were opened to everyone, boosting Equitas Health’s revenue from \$6.5 million to \$74 million annually.

“As a nonprofit, you don’t get a pass. You still need to act and operate like a business,” says Anderson, a graduate of the Wells Foundation’s Social Impact Investing Executive Education Program. “There comes a time when you might not be the trendy cause anymore. We needed a way to fund ourselves and diversify our revenues.”

The collaboration with the Wells Foundation, says Sara Friedman, the college’s director of continuing education, is a natural fit—especially for social workers and others in the human services field concerned about sustainability of nonprofits.

“The traditional sources of funding aren’t going away, but foundations are changing the way they award grants or partner with organizations,” Friedman says. “We want to make our community more aware of the social enterprise concept and where they can go to get the best information.”

For more about the Social Enterprise/Impact Investing Executive Education Program, visit go.osu.edu/csWSocialenterprise.

MEET THE 2017 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.

Distinguished Recent Alum Award

Solomon Hill (MSW '08)

Solomon Hill is a tenured faculty member in the social work program at Central State University, in Wilberforce, Ohio. He leads by example and his equation for life is Determination + Persistence + God = SUCCESS. Every step he takes is steeped in knowing that each of us has the potential to grab the power of our dreams and use our own experience with life's challenges, discriminations and adversities to affect those around us and alter the course of history.

Hill is student, community and service oriented. He creates intriguing assignments and performs service to support innovative structures that will produce capable and confident agents of change.

Hill currently serves on the Board of Family Violence Prevention Center and Greene County Housing Program and is an adviser to several campus organizations. He is a firm believer that students should be nurtured through personal development and curriculum that is supported through frequent demonstration of servant-leadership. He strongly believes that students should not just be learners—they must be developed into leaders.

Hill's most recent success is the accreditation of the social work program at Central State University.



Distinguished Career Awards

Dr. José Ashford (MSW '76)

Dr. José Ashford is a professor of social work at Arizona State University, where he directs the Office of Offender Diversion and Sentencing Solutions and the Graduate Certificate Program on Criminal Sentencing and Sentencing Advocacy.

Ashford serves as the chief research consultant for the City of Phoenix Municipal Court and senior consultant for Mercer Human

Resources Consulting. He is also the associate editor of the forensic social work section of the highly acclaimed *Social Workers' Desk Reference* and maintains a private practice as an expert witness in the penalty phases of capital cases.

Ashford is internationally known for his writings and research on the management of violence risks, special need offenders and his co-authored textbook on human behavior in the social environment.



Rejeana Haynes (MSW '89)

Rejeana Haynes is the vice president of Clinical Operations at St. Vincent Family Center in Columbus. She has worked in the behavioral health care field for the last 28 years, during which time she has dedicated her career to advocacy and providing services to children and families. Haynes has provided direct clinical services, facilitated various trainings for parents, teachers and other professionals, and has been a leader in the professional community providing her expertise regarding policy and service delivery.

In her current role, Haynes is responsible for monitoring and expanding the continuum of services at St. Vincent Family Center, ensuring that trauma informed care is a foundation of all service provision. She is also committed to ensuring that all services are delivered from a strength-based perspective. Haynes sees her mission in life to be that of offering hope to those who have found themselves in hopeless situations.

Haynes has participated on several nonprofit boards, including her most recent role on the Board of Directors for Multiethnic Advocates for Cultural Competence in Behavioral Health Care.



Captain John Biedenkapp (MSW '63)

Captain John Biedenkapp, an early organizer of the Martin Luther King March on Washington in 1963, served as the executive director of Community Action Lexington Fayette County, Inc. (CALE, Inc.) for nearly a decade. In 1970, he received the Social Worker of the Year Award from NASW-Kentucky for his outstanding service to the community.

As a captain in the Commissioned Corps U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS), he wrote the alcohol, drug abuse and mental health components of the National Health Planning Goals and Guidelines for health policy and developed a curriculum for training primary care practitioners in alcohol, drug abuse and mental health care.

Biedenkapp developed an officer advocacy program and an emergency response plan for the USPHS. He also created the PHS rotations in preventive medicine at Johns Hopkins Hospital and supervised extramural and intramural training activities for PHS. His numerous awards include the prestigious USPHS Meritorious Award.



Tuesday Ryan-Hart (MSW '98)

Tuesday Ryan-Hart is a host/facilitator who left the fields of traditional social service provision and academics to become a new kind of changemaker, partnering with community builders around the world. Her work in the community is featured in the book, *Walk Out Walk On: A Learning Journey into Communities Daring to Live the Future Now*, by Margaret Wheatley and Deborah Frieze. She is known internationally for her strategic work with organizations and communities engaged in systemic change.

With a BA in individual/family studies and an MSW, Ryan-Hart is an expert in transformational work, specializing in helping individuals, community nonprofits, governmental agencies and organizations of all sizes undergo the changes that will help them grow and become more successful.

With a passion for social justice and expertise in gender and race equality and anti-violence work, Ryan-Hart excels at working with groups to enhance awareness and understanding, build alliances and take positive action together. As part of a Columbus "community of practitioners," she both convenes and hosts community conversations that address the complex social issues facing many of our communities today.



Adult cognitive therapy comes with four legs and a mane

Associate Professor Holly Dabelko-Schoeny doesn't usually do her research in a barn. But a donor's interest in animal-human therapy encouraged a unique collaboration.

Dabelko-Schoeny studies older adults with cognitive disabilities, and her experience was needed in a pair of studies to determine if adults who interact with horses experienced more positive moods and behaviors. Because so little research had been done nationally, Dabelko-Schoeny didn't know what to expect. Most horse-human therapy involves children, not adults.

The initial feasibility study noted a decrease in wandering, agitation and repeated speech—common disruptive behaviors associated with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

Dabelko-Schoeny and co-investigators Teresa Burns, clinical assistant professor at Ohio State's College of Veterinary Medicine, and Kathy Lee, a doctoral candidate at social work, performed a second study at Otterbein University's horse barn to see how the adults and horses would interact.

They partnered with PBJ Connections' equine specialists and mental health professionals, who use horse therapy with children who are at-risk, autistic or exhibit behavioral issues. Recently, PBJ started a new equine therapy program for veterans struggling with substance abuse to help them address their goals, use support systems and improve their personal relationships. PBJ expanded the populations it serves by working with Dabelko-Schoeny's older adults, some of whom were veterans.

The work could be important for older veterans who, especially after times of war, experience a higher rate of cognitive issues than the general population, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

College of Veterinary Medicine donor Duncan Alexander funded the second study. Twenty-two adults from a local day care program were split into two groups, each going through six weeks of therapy. The non-therapy group attended its regular day program.

They rotated through three stations that included caring and feeding the horses, grooming and brushing them and eating lunch while engaging in reminiscing and mindfulness exercises. Each station had a licensed social worker or counselor, an equine



specialist and vet med and social work students. It was up to each adult to interact with the horses or not.

"There was a lot of reminiscing about horses," Dabelko-Schoeny says. "There were observations about how the horse was feeling. Horses are unique in that they are prey animals, not predators like therapy cats and dogs. They mirror the reactions and responses of the people around them."

The adults experienced a decrease in negative and disruptive behaviors and an increase in positive moods when compared to the day program group. Another benefit: the stigma around receiving mental health care was erased. Dabelko-Schoeny is creating a manual of intervention techniques so the therapy can be replicated anywhere.

"There's something about the interaction with the natural world, and the horses are a really unique vehicle," she says. "I sort of stumbled into it, but I've become really intrigued by it."



What happens to veterans?

Two recent graduates took a closer look at the effects of deploying and returning home

Bethany Hill's father left the military before she was born, yet she still felt like a military kid. His deployment to Vietnam and Cambodia and the mental health issues that ensued profoundly affected him and his family. He was one of only two soldiers in his unit to make it back.

Hill (BSSW '17) was drawn to clinical research, in part to help veterans, and felt that a social work degree would give her the best opportunity to do this type of work.

"How can I help you, the patient or client in front of me, and what can we learn in helping you that will help others in the future? That's what I'm passionate about," says Hill, who was an honors student and one of the first undergraduates to land a field placement at the Chalmers P. Wylie VA Ambulatory Care Center in Columbus.

For her undergraduate thesis, she chose what spoke to her: "The Effects of Deployment on Military Family Roles," which she entered into Ohio State's Denman Undergraduate Research Forum.

The results were qualitative and she interviewed four Air Force families. Their disparate experiences provided a window into how stressful deployment and military life can be.

Some fathers had a tough time reclaiming their role as dad, regardless of their kids' ages at the time of deployment. For older kids, it took longer to adjust because dad had missed so many activities. Younger children wanted "mommy to do it" because she had been doing that for so long.

Communication played a big role, too. Families that talked more when a parent was deployed had less anxiety and seemed to adjust better upon reunion. Better communication didn't necessarily lessen stress, however, especially when calls were dropped as mortar rounds sailed into a base.

"I came away with a better understanding of military families," says Hill, whose adviser was Dr. Linda Helm. "And it was about giving a voice to that experience and these families in a way most people don't understand."



Hill

While Hill looked at deployment, honors student Laurie Dutko (BSSW '13), whose grandfathers served in the Navy and Air Force, focused on veterans' experiences upon their return from the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. Specifically, she wanted to know where they went for their social and health services.

Concerned that suicide rates in the military weren't sufficiently being addressed, Dutko, under the guidance of Dr. Shantha Balaswamy, surveyed 158 Ohio State veteran students, 78 percent of them undergraduates, about their mental health, and if they had sought help and where. The veterans' identities were anonymous.

Slightly more than 24 percent of the students were diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety or depression (PTSD). But 58 percent were not seeking treatment at all, either at the VA, outside the VA or with Ohio State's free counseling.

"There's an overall lack of awareness of services offered in and out of the VA," says Dutko, who is a patient care assistant at Memorial Hermann Children's Hospital in Houston and wants to work with veterans as her next career move. "They don't know where to go and how to go about getting the services." As a result, veterans often rely on emergency room and urgent care for their health needs. Dutko's research was also showcased at the Denman.

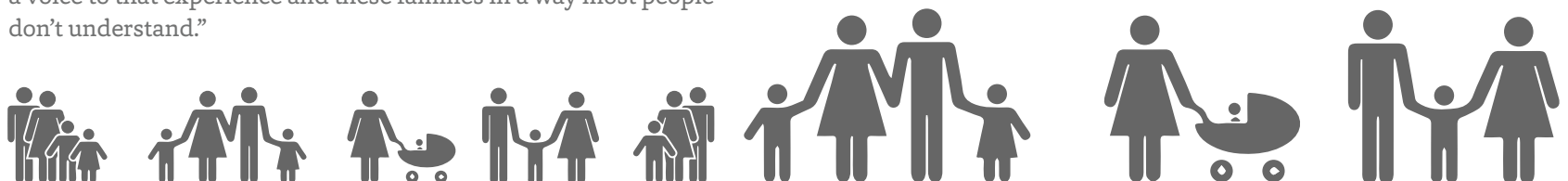
Jennie Babcock, the college's undergraduate program director, said the students' Denman research underscores a trend of social work students expressing greater interest in working with veterans and their families as a career. The number of veterans applying to the college has increased as well.

For Hill, the experience was priceless.

"At the College of Social Work, there is a desire to pursue excellence," Hill says. "And the ownership I was able to take with my thesis will just be a huge foundation for my career going forward as a researcher."



Dutko



Research you can use

Emotionally abused children show more aggression

In a study of about 500 children at risk for child abuse or neglect, Dr. Susan Yoon found that children who were emotionally abused had higher levels of aggressive behavior than children who were not. The study also found that while emotionally abused children were at risk of developing aggression, the presence of positive social skills and a caretaker's good behavioral health alleviated some of the risk for aggressive behavior. The study, "Early Childhood Aggression Among Child Welfare-Involved Children: The Interplay Between the Type of Child Maltreatment and Ecological Protective Factors" in *Children and Youth Services Review*, highlights the importance of understanding how emotional abuse affects long term development. Co-authors include Ohio State College of Social Work PhD students Erin Tebben and Guijin Lee.



Why bachelor's students join social work student orgs

Dr. René Olate co-authored a study to identify what factors influence undergraduate social work students to participate in social work student organizations. Student mentorship was one major reason for participation, suggesting that structured educational/social events and peer mentorship programs by professional student organizations may help promote social work values. The study, "Practicing Professional Values: Factors Influencing Involvement in Social Work Student Organizations," was published in the *International Journal of Higher Education* with first author Dorothy Martindale (BSSW '13) of the NASW-Ohio Chapter, and Dr. Keith Anderson of the University of Montana School of Social Work.



Social workers can help Indian surrogates reduce stress

For women in India who act as surrogate mothers for international couples seeking children, the process leads to stress on their physical health, psychological well-being and the well-being of their own families. According to Dr. Sharvari Karandikar's work, "Exploring the Physical and Emotional Stress of a Surrogate Pregnancy Among Transnational Indian Surrogates," social workers can play a role in minimizing this stress through counseling and psycho-social support. Co-authors include Dr. Lindsay Gezinski (PhD '11) of the University of Utah, and Sarah Huber, Ohio State College of Social Work PhD student. Their work was published in the journal *International Social Work*.



How parent drug use affects caseworker assessments

Given the current opioid crisis, Dr. Bridget Freisthler and Dean Tom Gregoire wanted to understand how drug use by parents might affect the way child welfare caseworkers assess child abuse and neglect. Their research showed that social workers substantiated neglect more often when any drug use was present. However, they were only more likely to substantiate physical abuse when illicit drug use was present. Unexpectedly, the type of drug used by the parent was not related to assessments of harm. The article, "Substance Use Behaviors by Parents and the Decision to Substantiate Child Physical Abuse and Neglect by Caseworkers," was accepted for publication in *Children and Youth Services Review*. It was a collaboration with Dr. Nancy Kepple of the University of Kansas, and Drs. Jennifer Price-Wolf and Susanna Curry of the California State University, Sacramento.



A career built on empowerment

Alumna **Lucy Gettman** helps ensure that women's voices in government remain consequential

Lucy Gettman (MSW, MPA '81) likes to think she's a product of her time. As she was coming of age in the 1970s, an avalanche of social change, especially for women, was happening. She had a high school teacher whose progressive ideas about women "opened her eyes." And while earning her English literature degree at SUNY Cortland, she studied the literature of social change.

She struggled to decide between a master's degree in public administration or social work because both were in line with her passion of empowering women.

"Public administration is about how to deliver good services and programs and how they're effective in reaching the right people. Social work is why we're doing it to begin with," she says. "They balance and complement each other very well."

It was an easy decision to come to Columbus when she discovered that Ohio State offered a dual master's program. Ever since, her career has followed her educational path.

During her field placement at the Ohio Statehouse, she helped track legislation related to key women's issues. "I recognized that important decisions were being made every day by elected officials, and I wanted to be engaged in that work," Gettman says.

She's been around the legislative process ever since. Gettman spent five years in the Ohio House, including three as a legislative aide for the Ways and Means Committee chair.

Her next three stops took her out of the Statehouse, into issue advocacy, and eventually to Washington, D.C. At the Inter-University Council of Ohio, the Ohio Student Aid Commission



and the Reading Recovery Council of North America, Gettman tackled state and federal education policy. In addition to direct lobbying, she worked extensively with coalitions and conducted training for advocates.

"It's not just talking to folks," Gettman says. "It's engaging stakeholders interested in policy who can make a difference."

Gettman's commitment to women's political leadership never waned, however. She earned a Women, Politics and Political Leadership graduate certificate from American University, and in so doing learned that more than 40 percent of local school board members are women. Soon after, she became a lobbyist for the National School Boards Association and was eventually promoted to chief advocacy officer. "I got to advocate for education and represent 40,000 elected women officials," Gettman says.

Her career came full circle in April when she became executive director for Women in Government, a nonpartisan membership organization that represents female state legislators. The goal is to ensure that members have the best information when creating policy.

"States are more critical than ever as locations of political decision-making, and women are 24 percent of state legislators," Gettman says. "It's important to have all perspectives at the table so everyone's experience is represented in the conversation."

"In policy decisions, we're talking about system change, so those social work issues are always front and center. I feel like what I gained from Ohio State I put into use every day. You're making systems work better so that everyone's needs are being met."

24% OF STATE LEGISLATORS ARE WOMEN

2017 Homecoming Festivities!





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- Brittany Woodley (MSW '13, BSSW '12)
- Tamica Johnson-Thornton (MSW '14)
- Eva Shinka (MSW '99, BSSW '98)
- Moira Dugan (BSSW '87)
- Peggy Myers (MSW '88, BSSW '82)
- Kerry Wears (BSSW '85)
- Michele Wilbur (MSW '93)
- Kathy Schroeder (BSSW '76)

Are YOU interested in engaging more with CSW and joining our alumni society's executive committee? Visit go.osu.edu/cswalumni.

Join a circle of friends inspired by our students to BE THE CHANGE!

Our alumni have the opportunity to leave an enduring legacy by joining our *Be The Change Society*. Here at The Ohio State University College of Social Work, we are teaching and training the future social workers of the world. Please consider the valuable impact you can make by joining us! Your \$1,000 annual donation will help ease our students' financial burden and ensure that they continue to receive superior faculty instruction and exposure to world-class research.

The *Be The Change Society* is not only about what you can give to our college and students—it's about how the College of Social Work can give back to you! As an honored member of the society, you will be informed of how your support is making an impact on our students in creative, thoughtful ways.

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Your generosity makes it possible for our students, faculty and staff to put theory into practice and produce groundbreaking results. Will you consider joining us? Will you be the change?

If you would like more information about the College of Social Work, or would like to discuss giving opportunities, please contact Director of Development Amy Bibler at bibler.52@osu.edu or 614/292-8879.



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