

# CWEP NewsLine



CWEP Website

<http://www.sw.uh.edu/communityoutreach/cwep.php>

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Feliz Año Nuevo



新年快樂

**HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR**

Bonne année



## Director's Comments

Joe Papick

Welcome Back!

“Welcome back to the start of your Spring academic semester. I hope that all of you have enjoyed your break and come back fresh and ready for the semester. As you may know this is the start of a new legislative session in Texas and certainly a new legislative beginning for the nation. In Texas, the 81<sup>st</sup> Legislative Session begins January 13, 2009 with the last day being June 1, 2009. During those 6 months approximately 10,000 plus bills will be introduced with over 50% of them passing and bringing about many changes for those of us working in health and human services. Already there have been over 1000 bills introduced. One can expect lawmakers to debate whether to close some of the state institutions for people with mental retardation, how to continue reforming the foster care system and whether to expand Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program. Bills already filed would start a statewide workplace smoking ban, create a health insurance program for children in the child-support system, legalize needle-exchange programs, ban possession of the hallucinogen salvia and regulate laser hair-removal facilities. Abortion-related bills filed include one that would require women who seek an abortion to first get an ultrasound and another — backed by Gov. Rick Perry — that would issue a 'Choose Life' license plate. So this is an important semester for you whether you are completing your degree requirements or have just begun. You must also keep abreast of what legislative changes both state and national will affect you as you go to work in CPS or your chosen area. We will keep you informed of some of the major events in our NewsLine but I hope you take this opportunity to get involved in legislative events that will affect your future. Good luck to you in your semester work and I look forward to seeing all of you back in classes.”

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# CWEP Alumni Spotlight

This month we are highlighting

Carmela Quintanilla, LCSW



## 1. What is your current position?



**Manager, Dept. of Social Work – Driscoll Children’s Health Plan.**  
We are a Medicaid Administrator for the South Texas Area. We conduct Medical Management with nurse Case Managers and identify high risk members that benefit from Social work intervention.

## 2. What did you like most about the CWEP program?

**The program provided a way for me to study here locally** (in Corpus Christi) without having to travel to Houston.

## 3. How did CWEP prepare you for your job?

Gave me the tools needed to pass my **LMSW and LCSW exam.** Helped to broaden my thinking and expand my employment opportunities.

## 4. Do you have any advice for current CWEP students?

**Stay focused, Study hard, and pray a lot.**



## 5. What are your plans for the future?

Considering the possibility of pursuing a **private practice.**



**Many Thanks to Carmela!**

## Additional Information:

I was one of 25 students who participated in the CWEP program in Corpus Christi. The program ran from Fall 2001 to May 2005. This part-time, weekend program allowed me to keep my job as a medical social worker in a children’s hospital and still pursue my master’s degree.

I am grateful to the professors who participated in the CWEP program and were committed to traveling to Corpus Christi every weekend.

I am so privileged to be **the first in our class to achieve the LCSW licensure.** (Nov. 2008)

### Contact information:

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## Effective Interviewing Skills with Children Experiencing Family Violence

### General Skills

- Introduce yourself to family member
- Explain your role with the agency
- Communicate purpose of interview
- Address family member by name
- Make efforts to **develop rapport** with family member (small talk, compliments, offering needed resource, etc.)
- **AVOID Why questions**
- Use minimal encouragers to encourage family member to talk
- Allow family member to tell his or her **own words**, then ask clarifying questions
- **AVOID loaded words**...asked about **behaviors and feelings** rather than using a label
- Take a **non-judgmental tone**
- Gather needed information to begin the process of **assessing safety and risk** (e.g. types and patterns of abuse, risks and impacts on the child and the victim)



### Skills Specific to Interviews with Children

- **AVOID jargon**...use language and questions that are developmentally appropriate for the child
- Gather information about the **impact of the domestic violence on the child**
- Gather information about **child’s ability to protect himself/herself**
- **AVOID suggesting responses to questions**
- **Assure the child s/he is not at fault** for what is happening in his/her family

Source: *Child Welfare Services With Family Experiencing Family Violence: Participant Guide.* Georgia Division of Family and Children Services (2007). This is a curriculum for child welfare workers working with families experiencing family violence. Includes a module on assessing safety and risk and developing safety plans for victims. For details, please view [http://dhr.state.ga.us/DHR-DFCS/DHR\\_DFCS-Edu/Files/PG\\_FamilyViolence\\_rev\\_april07.pdf](http://dhr.state.ga.us/DHR-DFCS/DHR_DFCS-Edu/Files/PG_FamilyViolence_rev_april07.pdf)

# Announcements



## Upcoming Events: MARK your CALENDAR

- An **International Conference on Social Work and Counseling Practice** with the theme **“Promoting Harmony and Justice in a World of Conflict”** will be held in **Hong Kong** in June 2009. **Dean Colby** will be a keynote speaker, and Drs. Cheung and Leung will be plenary speakers.  
*Organizer: Department of Applied Social Studies, City University of Hong Kong*  
*Co-Organizer: Graduate College of Social Work, University of Houston*

**Date:** June 2-5, 2009      **Venue:** City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

**Deadline for Abstract Submission:** February 28, 2009

For details, please visit <http://ssteach2.cityu.edu.hk/~cswc/index.htm>

- **Dr. Leung is currently planning a Study Abroad (Hong Kong/China) course for this Summer (May 30 to mid-June 2009). Stay tuned!**

- **The 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Preservation Conference** will be held in **HOUSTON** in September 2009. Family Preservation Institute’s (FPI) mission is to serve as a national center for the development and dissemination of Family Preservation knowledge and skills. The FPI is administered by the **School of Social Work at New Mexico State University**.

**Date:** September 9-11, 2009

**Venue:** Crowne Plaza Houston-Reliant Park, Houston

For more information, please click <http://fpi.nmsu.edu/index.php?go=home.html>



## Useful Resources for Social Workers

- **Spanish-Language Child Welfare Resources to Use With Families:** Child Welfare Information Gateway has launched its new Resources in Spanish web section at [www.childwelfare.gov/spanish](http://www.childwelfare.gov/spanish), replacing the En Español web section. The section includes our **glossary of English-to-Spanish and Spanish-to-English child welfare terms**, as well as topically organized resources on: Child abuse and neglect, preventing and responding to child abuse and neglect, supporting and preserving families, and out-of-home care adoption.  
*Resources are available in both Spanish and English, please browse the online catalog at [www.childwelfare.gov/catalog](http://www.childwelfare.gov/catalog) For more information, contact us at 800.394.3366 or [info@childwelfare.gov](mailto:info@childwelfare.gov)*



- **Domestic Violence (DV) Resources for Professionals:** Child Welfare Information Gateway has a newly enhanced DV web section. It provides updated and expanded information on **the co-occurrence of child maltreatment and domestic violence**, as well as information on how social service providers can work together to **improve services for children, youth, and families affected by domestic violence**. The redesigned section addresses: Impact, prevention, assessment, treatment services, casework practice, cross-system collaboration.

*You can visit the DV web section at [http://www.childwelfare.gov/systemwide/service\\_array/domviolence/](http://www.childwelfare.gov/systemwide/service_array/domviolence/)*



- **The New Children’s Bureau Express (CBX):** CBX features content reflecting Children's Bureau priorities, including a message from the Children's Bureau Associate Commissioner with each issue. You'll also find prominent **placement of news from the Children's Bureau Training and Technical Assistance Network, Quality Improvement Centers, and grantees, as well as other Federal, State, local, and Tribal child welfare news**. Other features include practical tools and strategies, the latest research, and many other resources to help child welfare professionals in their work. *Check out the CBX website and sign up for your free subscription! <http://cbexpress.acf.hhs.gov>*

- **The New Social Worker Magazine FREE Right Now. Download from** <http://www.socialworker.com/home/component/remository/Download/TheNewSocialWorkerMagazine/TheNewSocialWorkerVol.16No.1> (Winter 2009). **More for you and your social work career!**

### Tentatively Scheduled Courses (Summer 2009 to Spring 2010)

As you know, you may use track courses from the other track as your electives. You are also encouraged to take the following courses (tentatively listed in the faculty preliminary schedules) which are highly recommended by CWEP.

#### Summer 2009:

- Child Abuse and Neglect (Required for all CWEP students) (Summer III) (to be taught by **Brunessia Wilson**)
- Supervision and Consultation (Summer III) (**Trish Taylor**)
- Drugs in Society
- Study Abroad Hong Kong/China (5/30/09- 6/14/09) (**Patrick Leung**)
- Study Abroad Mexico (7/27/09-8/1/09) (**Sandra Lopez & Amber Mollhagen**)

#### Fall 2009:

- Clinical Practice with Children & Adolescents (**Monit Cheung**)
- Self Examination of Life Foundation (SELF) (**Trish Taylor**)
- Crisis Intervention
- Drugs in Society
- Group Therapy

#### Spring 2010:

- Child Abuse and Neglect (Required for all CWEP students)
- Clinical Practice with Families (Proposed)
- School Social Work
- Law and Social Work
- Mediation
- Grief & Bereavement

Please see "CWEP Required and Recommended Courses" list at [http://www.sw.uh.edu/communityoutreach/cwep\\_curriculum.php](http://www.sw.uh.edu/communityoutreach/cwep_curriculum.php). If you have other courses you would like to take that are not included in these course schedules, please contact Dr. Monit Cheung ([mcheung@uh.edu](mailto:mcheung@uh.edu)) to discuss availability. If you are planning to take these courses but they are not currently listed in your degree plan, please consult with both Jan Leger and Brunessia Wilson.

## Do You Know **L.E.O.**? Learning Enhancement Opportunity

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CWEP Welcomes Corrine Walijarvi,  
LEO Mentor for CWEP



Your LEO Mentor is here to help you!



When you want to get a third-person perspective about your academic preparation, or when you need someone to go over your presentation outline or paper format, please email or see Corrine Walijarvi, your LEO mentor for CWEP students.

Corrine writes, "My name is Corrine Walijarvi, and I am a first year student in the Ph.D. program at GCSW. I just received my MSW at GCSW last May, after completing four years in the program as a part-time student. I received my undergraduate degree in economics from Harvard, and worked as a public accountant while earning my M.S. in Accounting degree from New York University. I then earned an MBA from Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration, and pursued a management career while working for General Motors and General Electric. Following a diagnosis of cancer, I retired from the corporate world and devoted myself to raising my children and contributing to a variety of volunteer and charitable activities. I applied to the MSW program at GCSW after I had regained my health and my children had reached an age of relative independence.

I am currently working as a Doctorate Research Assistant with Dr. Monit Cheung. I am looking forward to the opportunity to help students currently in the CWEP program; I hope I can help you achieve your goals while avoiding unnecessary stress!"

Corrine's office hours for CWEP students in **Spring 2009 is Wednesday from 12 noon to 5pm**. Feel free to **email Corrine any time** at [cmwalija@mail.uh.edu](mailto:cmwalija@mail.uh.edu) to ask any questions related to your academic preparation, or to confirm a specific time for meeting with her. She looks forward to meeting with you in **Room 429** and helping in any way that she can. Remember, your **LEO mentor is available for CWEP students only**.

Dr. Monit Cheung, P.I. of CWEP

Please take full advantage of it!

For CWEP Students **ONLY!**

