

Child Welfare Education Project

CWEP NewsLine

**Volume 15 Issue 1
October 2012**



CWEP Website: <http://www.sw.uh.edu/community/cwep/current-students/index.php>

What's Inside:

Director's Corner	2
Mentor Pairs	3
Spotlights	4
CWEP Committee	5
Announcements	6-10
CWEP Calendar	11-12

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Director's Corner



In May 2012, CWEP introduced its formalized Mentorship Program. Each incoming student was paired with a 3rd or 4th year student or a graduate of the CWEP program. This program was designed to assist new students with the demands of the academic environment. The mentors are available to provide the students with information and assistance that will help them navigate a successful journey toward graduation. The students in return will receive academic, social and emotional support from their mentor.

The first year of graduate school can prove to be quite challenging so it is important that the participants take advantage of this wonderful opportunity. Two large group meetings are scheduled during the 2012-2013 school year to share experiences, concerns and to provide additional information. The participants will be acknowledged in the 2nd Annual Celebrate CWEP Program which will take place in May 2013.

I would like to thank each and every one of our CWEP Mentors for their willingness to commit to this task. If you are a graduate or 3rd or 4th year student and would like to become a mentor for future students, please feel free to contact me at 713-743-1394.

Arnitia Walker

CWEP Director

2012-2013

Mentoring Pairs

MENTOR	MENTEE
Diana Sutton	Sara Medina
Katera Butler	Teresa Anderson
Katera Butler	Meredith Atkinson
Carolyn Todd	Ashley Monie
Margaret G. Smith	Yolanda Westbrooks
Margaret G. Smith	Jaysa Curry
Shannon Manning	Oree Anglin
Shannon Manning	Cecilia Soto
Richard Holst	Carlos Diaz
Dalen Delito	Yolette Sneed
Melinda Rushing	Nicole Robinson
Melinda Rushing	Jennifer Lombardi
Crystal Reid	Jessica Gonzalez
Crystal Reid	Angela Killian

DFPS SPOT LIGHT:

Cheryl Triplett

Please describe your current job position and responsibilities at CPS.

I am currently a Program Administrator in the Family Based Safety Services and Investigations Programs in Harris County.

Do you have any work contact with any of our Child Welfare Education Project (CWEP Title IV-E) students studying at UH Graduate College of Social Work? How about other students or interns? In what capacity?

Yes, I have been fortunate in my 26 years of tenure to have worked and established strong peer and professional partnerships with many former CWEP Investigation Supervisors on more than one occasion. I do not have contact with any other students or interns.

What are some of the most important rewards in your work?

Achieving safety and permanency for children in the CPS system while maintaining important family relations and cultural sensitivity. I have learned through the years that the work that we do here at CPS is more than “a job;” It is a vocation.

What advice do you have for CWEP students (who are studying in our MSW program) and alumni (who are now working at CPS)?

I would encourage students to have a strong commitment to pursuing and achieving their MSW as it will strengthen their skills and perfect the knowledge needed to work with the children and families’ that CPS serves.



Meet the CWEP Committee



President:
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cmv1001@yahoo.com



Secretary:
Dalen Dilieto
dalend@hotmail.com



**Vice President
(Business Management):**
Jamelle Gibbs
jamellegibbs@aol.com



**Vice President
(Communications & Outreach):**
Amber Riaz
ajaved2@gmail.com

Faculty Liaison- Dr. Monit Cheung

Staff Liaison - Brunessia Wilson

ATTENTION:

Foundation Representative(s):
Need to recruit two first-year CWEP students
(Email Christina at cmv1001@yahoo.com if interested)

Do You Know L.E.O.?

Learning Enhancement Opportunity

*LEO is a mentorship program
providing academic support for
Child Welfare Education Project (CWEP) students*

Under the supervision of Dr. Monit Cheung (Professor of Social Work), a Social Work Doctoral Student (Jackie Duron, LCSW) will serve as a mentor to the CWEP students to help in such diverse areas as

- APA formatting
- Paper content and structure
- Preparation of presentation materials
- Research skills
- Other academic consultations

*We don't provide editing services, but we offer suggestions to improve paper structure and organizational style.

If you need academic mentorship at any time during your MSW study, please contact Dr. Monit Cheung at 713-743-8107 or mcheung@uh.edu (GCSW Rm 424).

*Get to know
L.E.O.
You'll be
glad you did.*

For the academic year 2012-2013, please email your request to the doctoral associate, Jackie Duron (GCSW Rm. 339; jiduron@mail.uh.edu).



*A Report from the Institute for the Advancement of Social Work
Research in collaboration with University of Maryland School of
Social Work*

Factors Influencing Retention of Child Welfare Staff: A Systematic Review of Research

Children who are relying on the child welfare system are put at risk due to the difficulties agencies are facing related to high staff turnover rates and the extreme amount of caseloads that impairs workers' ability to serve their clients at the full potential.

It has been determined by Child and Family Services & states' development of Program Improvement Plans (PIPs) that there is an urgent need to not only address this issue, but to also achieve accreditation and respond to class action lawsuits.

The Annie E. Casey Foundation launched its Human Services Workforce Initiative (HSWI) with the assumption that a motivated workforce will yield better results for children and families. Effective strategy change is necessary for child welfare agencies in order to provide the necessary help to our nation's most vulnerable children and families.

TO READ MORE:

<http://www.aecf.org/upload/publicationfiles/hs3622h638.pdf>

Message from:

**Joan Levy Zlotnik, PhD, ACSW
Director at Social Work Policy Institute
National Association of Social Workers
Foundation**

Colleagues,

The NASW Social Work Policy Institute is pleased to provide you with a new Policy Brief, *Educating Social Workers for Child Welfare Practice: The Status of Using Title IV-E Funding to Support BSW & MSW Education*. The brief provides background information about federal Title IV-E training policy, highlights findings from the Social Work Policy Institute's survey of social work education programs that are accessing Title IV-E funds, suggests recommendations for future action, and provides links to useful resources.

The Brief can be accessed at:

<http://www.socialworkpolicy.org/news/new-policy-brief-highlights-use-of-title-iv-e-funding-to-support-social-work-students.html>.

Thank you to all who took the time to respond to the survey last winter. I look forward to seeing many of you at the CSWE APM in November.

Joan Levy Zlotnik, PhD, ACSW

For any further questions, please contact Joan L. Zlotnik at:

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Mark Your Calendars!

National Families Report Release

~A report by and about the families of court-involved youth~

WHAT: Release of new report and personal testimonies from Houston parents and students

WHERE: S.H.A.P.E. Community Center, 3803 Live Oak, Houston, TX

WHEN: Thursday, September 27th at 6:30pm

- ◊ Video viewing "Voices From Inside" featuring youth and families impacted by the juvenile justice system
- ◊ Hear family stories about their experience with transitions from the juvenile to adult justice systems.
- ◊ Excerpts from the National Families Report Based on over 1,000 surveys with parents and family of incarcerated youth and 24 focus groups nationwide.



FAMILIES UNLOCKING FUTURES: SOLUTIONS TO THE CRISIS IN JUVENILE JUSTICE

27th Annual Conference on the Prevention of Child Abuse Support

WHERE: San Antonio Omni Colonnade Hotel

WHEN: March 4-5, 2013

You will receive recognition of support on the conference program that will be sent to over 300,000 individuals and organizations as well as on our web site.

The Conference has shown a tremendous increase in attendance over the years making it the largest in the state. Last year's conference drew over 700 persons including child protective services workers; social workers; counselors/therapists; school personnel; foster parents; medical, and law enforcement professionals; and individuals will make up the realm of those in attendance. As the only statewide conference dedicated to child abuse prevention, interest in and attendance at the conference has increased each year.

For any questions, please contact **Wendell Tellow** or check out their website at: <http://www.preventchildabusetexas.org/nextconference.html>

REGISTRATION FORM

Prevent Child Abuse Texas

**WALK TO
ACTION**



"IT SHOULDN'T HURT TO BE A
CHILD"

CWEP Calendar of Events

(Also available via <http://www.sw.uh.edu/community/cwep/events/index.php>)

(Updated 7/26/2012; Subject to Change)

October

- 5th - Mentor Networking Event – From 12 PM – 1 PM (Murworth, RM D64)
 22nd -25th - CWEP Student Advising for spring 2013

November

- 2nd - Brown Bag at CPS from 12:00pm-1:00pm in RM D36B
 21st - 24th - **THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**

December

- 8th - Last Class Day fall semester
 11th-19th - Final Examination Period
 24th -1st - **WINTER BREAK**

SPRING 2013

January

- 14th - **Classes Begin for Spring Semester**
 21st - **MARTIN LUTHERN KING, JR., HOLIDAY**
 25th - Brown Bag at CPS from 12:00pm-1:00pm

February

- 21st - Mentor Networking Event – From 12 PM – 1 PM (Location TBA)

March

- TBA - CWEP Symposium
 11th – 16th - **SPRING BREAK WEEK**
 25th -29th - CWEP Student Advising for summer/fall 2013

April

- 29th - Last Class Day spring semester

May

- 1st -9th - Final Examination Period
 2nd - CELEBRATING CWEP at Rockwell Pavilion (UH) from 6:00 PM-8:00 PM
 10th - **CONVOCATION (DATE TO BE FINALIZED; SEE GCSW ANNOUNCEMENT)**

Summer 2013

May

27th

- **MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY**

28TH-31ST

- **TITLE IV-E CHILD WELFARE ROUNDTABLE CONFERENCE-SAN LUIS HOTEL, GALVESTON, TX**

June

3rd

- Classes Begin for Summer I, II, III

7th

- New Applicant's Deadline to turn in CWEP Application for fall 2013

July

1st

- Last Class Day Summer II

4th

- Independence Day Holiday

8th

- Classes Begin for Summer IV

23rd

- Last Class Day Summer III

August

1st

- Last Class Day Summer I

5th

- Last Class Day Summer IV

Do you know about the Learning Enhancement Opportunity (LEO) offered by CWEP?

If you need academic assistance, please contact your LEO mentor, Jackie Duron, LCSW, a GCSW doctoral student who volunteers her time to help you. Learn more about it at <http://www.sw.uh.edu/community/cwep/current-students/index.php>

(under "The LEO Mentor Program").