

JUSTICE, PEACE, AND ALL THAT SHIP

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Student Service
Learning
Projects

Shippen Hall
382

Phone: 717-477-1717

Website
ship.edu/Social_Work

Instagram
@shipu_swkgero

Twitter
@ShipUSocialWork

Shippensburg, PA
17257-2299



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Meet and Greet 2022



At the beginning of the Fall 2022 semester, the department hosted a meet and greet for BSW students, MSW students, and anyone else who wanted to join.

Fun games including icebreakers and team-building activities were held with the help of Emily Javitt, Assistant Director for Engagement & Leadership. In addition, snacks and ice cream sandwiches were served to all who attended.

Gerontology Update

2022-2023



Hello from the 3rd floor of Shippen Hall! The gerontology minor had a wonderful year, with interesting programs and presentations, new minors, and several course additions to the minor. Gerontology minor internships returned to “full-force” and in the fall 2022, the program saw 6 students completing their internships in agencies that serve older adults. In the spring of 2023, we have 3 students completing their internships at the local senior center, a personal care home, and a physical therapy practice!

The minor had 8 programs this past year. In the fall, Hope (Schneck) Eberly (BSW '12) presented about hospice, encouraging people to volunteer for hospice. The minor then had a 3-part series titled “Careers in Gerontology” which touched on the different careers available in the Business/Marketing, IT, and Healthcare areas. We are thankful for the partnership with the Career Center and for the presenters John Houllahan, Cassie Friedenberger (Art'15 & MS in Communication Studies'18), John DiMaggio, and Jane Snecinski. A special thank you to Seth Anthony and Cathy Benfer from LW Consulting, Inc. for arranging the speakers.

In the spring, Hope Eberly spoke again to the campus about the importance of hospice. Nicole Smith (BSW/Gerontology minor'15) and Melissa Brandt came to campus to talk about the personal care facility, Celebration Villa at Shippensburg. It is fantastic when former graduates of our social work program and gerontology minor come back “home” to talk about their professional experiences! In March, the gerontology minor partnered with the disability studies minor to show the documentary “Mimi and Dona”. This documentary follows the highs and lows of an older adult who is solely caring for her adult daughter who is living with an intellectual and developmental disability. This program was well-received by the students who attended. Lastly, in April, we wrapped up the academic year with a virtual tour and panel presentation from the staff at Penn Asian Senior Services, Inc (PASSi) in Philadelphia, PA. We were so thankful that Clayton Fitch, COO; Miyong Lee, and Jiyoun Park, MSW, took time out of their workday to show us what the facility looked like and for describing the many services that they offer.

The department and Interdisciplinary Gerontology Council (IGC) approved the addition of some new courses that minors can take to help them achieve their minor. These courses are: SWK 102 (Social Work and Social Welfare), ESC 260 (Principles of Nutrition) and WST 100 (Introduction to Women's Studies). The GRN 100 (Introduction to Gerontology) course was also approved by the department and the IGC to serve as one of the options for social work majors to fulfill their required social work elective course. With the addition of these courses, it will enable more students to continue to learn about the importance of our older adults and their strengths and needs.

Congratulations to our graduates, especially to our social work majors who graduated with their gerontology minor--Gracie Chronister, who graduated in December 2022 and Kerri Potteiger and Makayla Scofield who graduated in May 2023!!

INSINC 2022-2023

The Institute for Social Inclusion (INSINC) advances and supports activities that promote social inclusion of vulnerable populations such as people with disabilities, people of color, LGBTQ populations, the elderly, children and youth, women, migrant populations, people in poverty, and so on, through research, training, and development of demonstration models.

INSINC defines social inclusion as “the process of improving the terms on which individuals and groups take part in society—improving the ability, opportunity, and dignity of those disadvantaged on the basis of their identity.”

Social inclusion means making all members of society feel important, improving opportunities for participation, embracing diversity, and restructuring systems of oppression and exclusion. This can lead to improved physical and mental health as well as inspire positive change.

The 2022 INSINC Conference theme—Renew, Reconnect, and Reignite—focused on renewing the organization’s commitment to provide activities which increase the awareness for the promotion of social inclusion by reconnecting with service providers, educators, and students with the goal of reigniting the sense of urgency to advocate for vulnerable populations within our communities.

Author and keynote speaker Chen Chen opened the conference, followed by three breakout sessions:

- English Department: The Necessity of Poetry in an Office Called the Heart: Join & Listen, led by Chen Chen and Dr. Nicole Santalucia
- Department of Social Work and Gerontology: Rest, Reflect, and Reconnection for Self-Care, led by Dr. Samuel Benbow and Dr. Jennifer Clements
- Mathematics Department: The Value of DEI in STEM Education in the Workforce, led by Dr. Luis Melara

After the three breakout rooms ended, INSINC concluded the conference with closing remarks from Chen Chen (pictured) as well as a poetry reading and a brief Q&A. INSINC would like to thank all who attended the first in-person conference since April 2019!



Scholarship Awards



Nafisah Conix, recent BSW graduate, received the following two scholarships.

Anthony F. and Valerie Ceddia

Leadership Scholarship:

(Est. 2005) This scholarship is for a full-time junior or senior who has demonstrated leadership within a campus organization during the early part of their campus experience and who has demonstrated good character and citizenship

ACT 101/ Academic Success Program Scholarship:

(Est. 2020) This scholarship is for students from underrepresented populations enrolled in the academic success program at Shippensburg University who have completed at least 60 credits prior to benefiting from the scholarship. Recipients must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 or above and demonstrate financial need by completing FASFA.



Nafisah Conix

BSW STUDENT ADVOCATES FOR PART-TIME STUDENTS!

Stephanie Toledo-Valentin is one of the BSW fall graduates with the Harrisburg Degree Completion Program. During her time at Shippensburg University, Stephanie advocated for part-time students to be included in the reviews for Dean's List recognition. A quote from Provost Hill on Stephanie Toledo-Valentin, "One of the facets of our Bachelor of Social Work program that is a pride point for the University is the curriculum and training experiences related to advocacy, building human resiliency, and a proactive and engaged approach to systems and policies. An exemplar of the dispositions and competencies that we expect of our social work students is the hard work and persistence of Stephanie Toledo Valentin. As a high-performing part-time student completing our Harrisburg cohort program, Stephanie recognized the need to update our longstanding policy regarding how we process Dean's List recognitions for part-time students. With a proactive mindset and willingness to take initiative, frame the negative impact of the extra steps required for part-time students, and identify solutions, Stephanie was professional in her advocacy which ultimately culminated in a University-wide change to our policy that provided a standardized processing of part-time students for the Dean's List recognition."

-Provost Hill





BSW FALL GRADUATES AND FIELD PLACEMENTS



- **Carlos Barraza-Rodriguez:** Shippensburg Community Resource Coalition
- **Gracie Chronister:** Cumberland County Children and Youth Services
- **Kade Fisher:** Laurel Life - Transitional Classroom
- **Morgan Hechler:** Partnership for Better Health
- **Jada Martin:** Delaware County Children and Youth Services
- **Makenzi Maun:** Franklin County Jail
- **Shayna Scott:** Shippensburg University Head Start Program
- **Emma Tennant:** International Rescue Committee-Baltimore
- **Destiny Wade:** Domestic Violence Services of Cumberland and Perry Counties
- **Leah Wolfinger:** Montessori Academy of Chambersburg
- **Mandi Zawadzki:** River Rock Academy- Carlisle



BSW FALL GRADUATES & FIELD PLACEMENT- HARRISBURG DEGREE COMPLETION PROGRAM



- **Imani Bethea:** Elevated Mental Health Services
- **Jason Diggs:** YWCA- Sexual Assault/Rape Crisis Services
- **Allison Elliot:** Better Outcomes Living Diversely (BOLD) Inc.
- **Sarah Grubb:** National Association Social Workers-PA
- **Briana Hagler:** York School District
- **Jessica Jones:** United Methodist Home for Children, Inc.
- **Tnika Lewis:** Justice Works Youth Care
- **Kimberly Loman:** United Methodist Home for Children, Inc.
- **Julia Medina:** Youth Advocate Programs – York
- **Alicia Murr:** YWCA- Veteran Services
- **Amy Rabin:** Perry County Children and Youth Services
- **Frances Rimby:** Youth Advocate Programs – Lebanon
- **Hayley Rosario:** Dauphin County Children and Youth Services
- **Kevin Sheppard:** Family Promise of Harrisburg Capital Region
- **Juanita Smith:** PA Foster Care & Adoption Agency
- **Stephanie Toledo-Valentin:** Christian Recovery Aftercare Ministry:
The Hub



MSW GENERALIST YEAR FIELD PLACEMENTS



- **Emily Bowman:** Salvation Army in Carlisle
- **Alia Claggett:** Pride and Gender Equity Center Shippensburg University
- **Noreaga Goff:** Shippensburg University Raider Wellness Center
- **Jennifer Harfst:** Shippensburg Community Resource Coalition
- **Jena Houser:** Residential Hospice
- **Kendall Johnson:** Tuscarora School District
- **Jordan O'Donnell:** Fulton County Crisis
- **Shamsa Omar:** Compass Immigration Legal Services
- **Madison Renfroe:** Family Centered Services
- **Alexis Worley:** Shippensburg Community Resource Coalition



MSW SPECIALIZATION YEAR FIELD PLACEMENTS



- **Brooke Bingham:** Yellow Breeches Educational Center
- **Meta Bowman:** YWCA- Sexual Assault/ Rape Services
- **Jami Burkett:** Shippensburg Community Resource Coalition
- **Elias Cabrera:** Bethany Christian Services
- **Imani Cameron:** Dickinson Law Clinic Student
- **Haley Carpenter:** Law Firm of Steinbacher- Goodall and Yurchak
- **Marleana Carterbelles:** Cumberland Perry Domestic Violence Services
- **Theodore Chylack:** Shippensburg Area School District
- **Jessica Erikson:** Carroll County Youth Services
- **Donna Faraon:** WellSpan-York
- **Courtney Fenice:** YWCA-Sexual Assault/ Rape Services
- **Kylee Ford:** Commonwealth Clinical Group
- **Aden Hassan:** Catholic Charities Immigration & Refugee Services
- **Jesie Henry:** Frederick County Schools
- **Deborah Kearns:** Hilltop Academy
- **Lizzie Nee:** WellSpan Chambersburg – Inpatient Services
- **Jaida O’Neal Sloane:** Cumberland County Children and Youth Services
- **Devon Speiser:** Franklin County Crisis
- **Taron Townsend:** PA Counseling
- **Kelsy Walton:** Sweet Grace Ministries
- **Ashton White:** Cumberland County Area Office on Aging

BSW Spring Graduates & Field Placements



- **Zoe Willard:** Yellow Breeches Education Center-Plainfield Campus
- **Lyann Terrero-Baez:** UPMC Community Health Choices
- **Jisauri Toribio-Ventura:** Franklin County Children and Youth Services
- **Rachel Hastie:** Gettysburg Area School District
- **Isabelle Gulgert:** Franklin County Children and Youth Services
- **Halle Zullinger:** Franklin County Children and Youth Services
- **Tida Jammeh:** The Salvation Army of Carlisle
- **Jacob Harnish:** Laurel Life - Waynesboro School District
- **Fatumata Barrie:** Yellow Breeches Educational center
- **Nafisah Conix:** Shippensburg Community Resource Coalition
- **Kerri Potteiger:** Momentum Services LLC IBHS department
- **Makayla Scofield:** Menno Haven - Brookview Healthcare Center
- **Claire Knepper:** Yellow Breeches Educational Center
- **Madison Kohler:** Adams County Children and Youth Services
- **Regyna Gantt:** Shippensburg Area School District
- **Leah Hoskins:** Community CARES Family Shelter
- **Karina Ryabyy:** Dauphin County Children and Youth Services
- **Rozlynn Dealy:** Franklin County Children's Advocacy Center
- **Kiersten Melder:** Diakon Wilderness Center's Weekend Alternative Program
- **Angela Boeren:** Pride and Gender Equity Center at Shippensburg University



2023 MSW Graduates



- Brooke Bingham
- Meta Bowman
- Jami Burkett
- Elias Cabrera
- Imani Cameron
- Haley Carpenter
- Marleana Carterbellas
- Ted Chylack
- Jesie Crouse
- Jessica Erickson
- Donna Faraone
- Courtney Finkey
- Kylee Ford
- Deborah Kearns
- Elizabeth Nee
- Jaida O'Neal-Sloane
- Devon Speiser
- Taron Townsend
- Kelsey Walton
- Ashton White

★ **Vision For Excellence** ★

The Robert L. Hewitt Vision for Excellence Scholarship is named in honor of Dr. Robert L. Hewitt, who was a professor in the Department of Social Work and Gerontology for 21 years. The scholarship began in 1997. Eligible students apply for the scholarship by writing an essay about what excellence in social work means to them. Applicants must be a senior in the BSW program, have a social work GPA of a 3.0 and an overall GAP of a 2.5 to be eligible. The finalists exemplify what excellence in social work means and show promise in the field of social work. Congratulations to this year's winners, Tnika Lewis, Stephanie Toledo-Valentin, and Zoe Willard.





Vision For Excellence



Tnika Lewis

The journey and mission to become a social worker has not been easy for me, in fact, it took me almost thirty years to figure out what I wanted to be when I grew up. After graduating high school and going onto HACC (Harrisburg Area Community College) majoring in business, I had no idea what I really wanted to do or what I had a passion for and after two semesters I realized that it was not business, as accounting and business law gave me great anxiety. Shortly after I left school, young, naïve and no plan in mind I proceeded into the workforce, customer service was the field as I loved working with people. made decent money however there was no passion for what I did every day and realized I needed to make a change.

I went back to school in 2016 to pursue my degree in social work as I have always been a people person and after working in a high school in the social services suite, I knew it was what I was meant to do as I loved the interactions and the work the social workers did amazed me. I quickly did research and got myself back into school and was determined to get my degree in social work to be able to provide representation for students, much like myself, students who did not have a Black social worker or teacher or anyone that could guide them, that looked like them, I wanted to give them representation.

Social work and the different jobs that are available is surely where I would find my place in life. Having the ability to help others, giving them resources and a second chance is where excellence began for me in the field. Excellence in social work means to be able to give others completely and genuinely what they need, it means advocating for and educating your clients. Excellence is understanding the policies and procedures and also knowing how the effect your clients and what you need to do in order to provide what is best for your clients without bias. Excellence is going above and beyond to ensure the competencies of social work and the morals and ethics are being upheld. Understanding and fully practicing the competencies of social work, especially demonstrating ethical and professional behavior. Excellence in social work is knowing that continued education is necessary and lastly excellence in social work is also being a professional and realizing that self-care is just as important as taking care of and working with our clients.

While I have not worked in the field long, my current position as a family resource specialist really gives me the full social work experience. Working with clients daily and also doing work at the mezzo and macro levels gives me a well-rounded experience, which I absolutely love. I intend to accomplish my master's degree and continue to collaborate with people in my community to ensure they are being advocated for and continue to make sure access is not a barrier. Accomplishing my immediate goals of graduation will enable me to get more involved with the mezzo and macro levels of social work at my employer and allow me to really work for the people who do not have access and lack representation.

While continuing to pursue my degree, I have changed jobs and the opportunity I have been given has been nothing short of amazing. During this career change, I've taken several courses to further my education on the job and do constant training about changes in the field. I've taken and accomplished learning a nurturing parenting course that I now teach to parents, working to help them be reunified with their children is extremely fulfilling. I want to continue to educate myself and I intend to accomplish having a successful client experience. I want to be able to look back over my client lists and have a successful closing of cases and have evidence that I have done justice for my families. I want to know that I have provided them with the resources and skills to sustain under normal circumstances and enhance their experience with a social worker and change the mindset, especially in the black community that social services and social workers aren't all bad.

I have worked as a volunteer, coaching youth sports, which I did for eight years. The experience kept me youthful, and it was a wonderful opportunity to work with young girls. The coaches I worked with were purposeful, we made sure our little ladies got a lesson in life, not just practicing cheerleading. We made baskets for the elderly, we did cards for those in the nursing homes, and we donated food, clothes and shoes to the community. During the pandemic I volunteered for the food bank and our local school district, twice a week, meals were provided to families that may have been suffering from food insecurities. The experience is eye opening, there are more families struggling than we think, many are two income families and similar to my own family and it's a reminder that none of us are above being in need.

In conclusion social work was always the field I belonged in, I just had no idea how to get off the roller coaster and when I finally jumped off, the opportunities and experiences I have had while pursuing my degree and working with the public has been the highlight of my career. I have worked since I was fifteen and now at 50 to be embarking on the completion of my education the excitement of impact I will make in the social work field are limitless.

-Tnika Lewis



★ Vision For Excellence ★ Stephanie Toledo-Valentin

Excellence In Social Work, Future Goals and, Activities and Volunteer Experiences

Excellence in Social Work begins by embodying the Social Work code of ethics. It is also important to remember self-care which is a very important part of any professionals' life. Some of the ethics that stand out the most to me when thinking of excellence in Social Work are the dignity and worth of all people, integrity, and competence. Knowing that every person has dignity and worth is one of the first things a successful social worker should have in the forefront of their values. To be trustworthy and provide quality services social workers must be able to do the right thing even when no one is looking which is integrity. Staying current in events and practices also ensures that clients are receiving the most effective and beneficial information and services available. Lastly, self-care should always be practiced by all professionals to avoid burn-out.

In my career as a social worker, I plan to not only practice the Social Work Ethical Values, which also align with my personal values; I also plan to continuously advocate for and empower clients while also creating positive change whenever I can. Speaking up for people when they face injustice and inequity is what ignited my passion for social work. Though advocating on a person's behalf is very important, it is equally as important to empower them to be able to advocate for themselves. When a client can see their strengths and value as a person, they inevitably have a better quality of life. Through advocacy and empowerment, change is achieved. It is not just individual people who need advocacy, empowerment and change but also communities. I am also very interested in change on a large scale which can also be achieved through the social work profession by making institutions aware of changes that need to be made to ensure equity and by voting for elected officials who can enact change on a local, state or national level.

In alignment with my future goals, I have started applying what I have learned in the BSW program already through volunteering, participating in groups and of course advocacy. While volunteering at the East Shore Area Library I have learned about the culture there and how they provide much needed services to both the community and people who are experiencing homelessness. While volunteering for the South Side Elementary PTA I have learned about fundraising which is a very useful and transferrable skill. I am part of the National Society for Leadership and Success. Through the various speakers that they present I have learned about different areas where people are enacting change and how it was achieved. I am also part of Phi Alpha the National Honor Society of Social Work at Ship which provides many ways in which to get involved with causes both on and off campus. At my full-time job I am also part of the Diversity and Inclusion Council through which I learn and help with efforts both in the Caucus and the state of Pennsylvania as a whole.

I am also extremely proud of the advocacy work I have performed at Ship on behalf of all part-time students. During my time at Ship, I noticed that the policy for Dean's List was outdated and inequitable to part-time students. While full-time students received recognition for their academic achievements automatically, part-time students had to manually apply to be acknowledged. As part-time students many times have employment, families, and other responsibilities that traditional students many times do not, having to find the time to manually apply to be recognized for the hard-work they already accomplished, was unreasonable. I took it upon myself to do research on other higher learning institutions in the state (both PASSHE and not) and meet with the appropriate personnel at Ship. Though I was discouraged by some along the way, I did not give up. I continued my efforts until the change was made to automate the process for all students at Ship. Thus, ensuring that everyone is recognized for their academic achievement at no additional hassle to anyone.

-Stephanie Toledo-Valentin





Vision For Excellence



Zoe Willard

I. Excellence in Social Work

Excellence in social work means, for me, that I use as much effort as I can to be an active learner. So many of my experiences in my social work program have been about learning and challenging what I thought I knew. When working with people and offering services to them, it is easy to be intimidated and afraid of messing up. My professors have diligently instilled in me that excelling in the field of social work is about using the mistakes you make to learn from.

Whether this means making mistakes in course work or making mistakes during field work, the best way to avoid further damage is to stop, reflect, and adapt. I do not believe that the best social worker is someone who has a natural gift for engaging with others. I believe that the best social workers are those who enhance their empathy and skills through embracing what they do not know.

II. Future Accomplishments

Upon entering the social work field, I am hopeful to create an environment that generates fulfillment and purpose for my clients and myself. I decided to pursue an education in social work because it has always been important to me to live a life that aligns with my values. I want to be able to live every day knowing that I used my time and energy for the overall good of society. I hope to create connections with individuals where we can teach each other about our unique experiences and benefit from that connection. I know that as much as I will be offering services to my clients, they will be teaching me more than I could ever learn from a textbook or a hypothetical situation. Most of all, I am looking forward to seeing how the field of social work changes and grows as I am in my career. It would be the most satisfying accomplishment to me if I was able to contribute to the betterment of social work through new approaches and techniques that I will learn through furthering my education and experiences.

Beneficial Activities and Volunteer Experiences

For the last two years, I have been the chair of Shippensburg University's Young Democratic Socialist chapter, which was co-introduced by myself and one of my peers. Being the chair of this chapter has been one of the most rewarding experiences I have had in my college career. I have been able to interact with many different kinds of people during meetings, events, and through social media with a vast range of viewpoints. The chapter has also been able to contribute to the community by installing a small scale food pantry at the local public library where the membership is responsible for raising funds to purchase and stock the pantry. I know that my position as chair is one of my main experiences that will best prepare me for a career in social work. I have been able to practice facilitating a group, communicating with outside parties on behalf of the group, and being one of the main action systems to get a project moving and sustained. It has also helped guide my views and has helped me reinforce the social work values of mutual and community aid within myself.

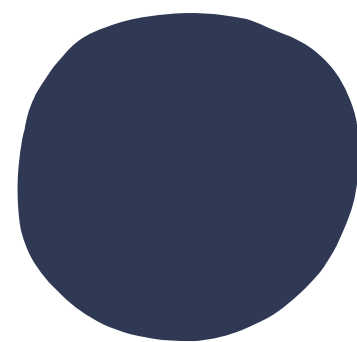
-Zoe Willard



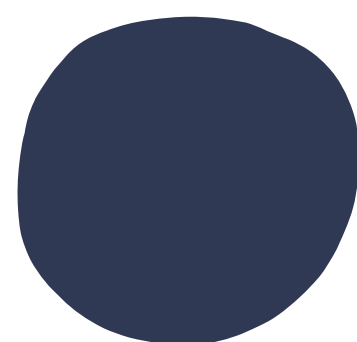
Social Work Organization (SWO) 2022-2023 Update



The Social Work Organization (SWO) is a student club recognized by Student Government Association (SGA) that offers social work majors and those interested in the major opportunities to broaden their understanding and awareness of the social work profession. The four focus areas of SWO are service learning, leadership development, departmental and course support, as well as student assistance with understanding the major and the many opportunities to get involved.



During 2022/2023 year, the Social Work Organization (SWO) held biweekly meetings in person to support the students and their needs. They completed activities such as an earth day clean up, where they walked the rail trail and cleaned it. They participated in a holiday candle sale as well as attended the Shippensburg University open houses for incoming students.



If you are interested in volunteering to be a leader in SWO, please contact Dr. Benbow at srbenb@ship.edu for more details and opportunities to help us make a difference.



Faculty Kudos



Dr. Jen Clements and Dr. Samuel Benbow presented at the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Conference on Friday November 11, 2022. The title of their presentation was, "The International Association for Social Work with Groups and Council on Social Work Education: Group Work Education in the Global Online Environment."

Dr. Dorlisa Minnick was presented the Mid-Career Achievement award 2022 by the Association for Community Organization and Social Action.



Letter From an MSW Student



Excerpt from a speech by our recent MSW graduate, Ted Chylack.

When I was a teenager thinking about what I would do for the rest of my life, social work wasn't even in the running. Hearing the term "social worker," only one person came to mind: Tyne Daly on the early 2000s TV show *Judging Amy*. Any career aptitude test results that included social work were immediately discounted because I never saw myself as Tyne Daly. I didn't have her drive, her courage, or her dramatic presence. It was only when I decided to embark on a career change that I saw how certain aspects of social work had been ever present in the jobs I'd held. Begrudgingly, I not only considered going back to school, but reevaluating how I regarded social work.

In joining this program, we have all been challenged to unlearn and relearn how to engage in the world around us. Our education has been shaped not only by our professors and textbooks, but by the diverse experiences we share that allow us to learn from one another. I am proud to know everyone in my cohort and I am proud of what we have accomplished. The support we are able to give one another better prepares us to face the world's many injustices. You've all helped to teach me by sharing your own skills and struggles, and in doing so, I've learned how malleable and varied social work practice can be.

Social work is not for the faint-hearted. It can be bleak and heartbreaking, but together, we have learned to channel our despair and anger into action and advocacy. Getting to this point was not without its challenges, and we would not have made it without the many support systems in our lives. In that vein, I'd like to thank all of our families, friends, teachers, supervisors, guides, and mentors who have helped us on this journey. Some of them are here tonight while others are here in spirit. Some of them aren't even social workers. They are the people who stand up to injustice, strengthen their communities, encourage empowerment, and continue to do this work every day without knowing that they're social workers at heart. Thank you to everyone—the social workers and non-social workers alike—who have inspired us and set us on this path. We hope you realize the impact you've made.

When I think about it now, social work isn't a profession; it's a personality trait, a part of your unique spirit. It is the foundation of who you are that the rest of these skills are built upon, and if you didn't already possess it, you wouldn't be here tonight. Years later, I now realize that social work isn't about being Tyne Daly. It isn't about being any one thing. It is about being yourself and bringing your own strengths to the table. It is about kindness and dedication, creativity and collaboration, hope, heartache, and countless other qualities that we have spent years nurturing in preparation to share with the rest of the world.

Now the only thing left to do is to celebrate: how far you've come, the people who helped you get here, the lives you've changed along the way, and all that is yet to unfold. Celebrate all of it because wherever you go from here, they'll be lucky to have you. Congratulations to my fellow 2023 MSW graduates!

**Congratulations
to Ted and all of
the May 2023
MSW graduates!**



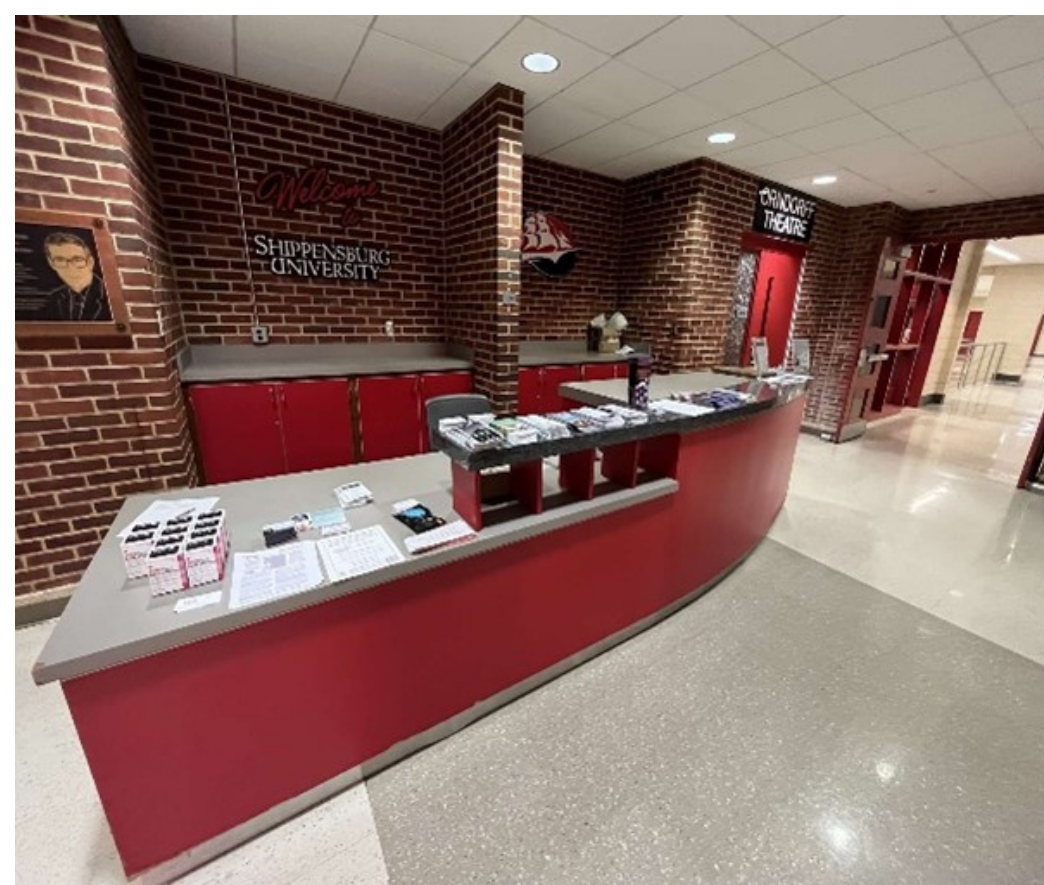
Student Service Learning Projects



Tippin' the Pain Scale: Movie Showing Event

Students collaborated with Nikki Weir, Recovery Employment Coordinator at Pennsylvania Recovery Organizations Alliance, and Kurt Dunkel from The Wellness Center at Shippensburg University to have a showing of the movie Tippin' the Pain Scale, a documentary on how the system has failed in the way addiction is perceived and treated. The student group successfully advertised the event through flyers and social media postings, contacted and worked with panel members to have a further discussion about addiction after the movie showing, put together a resource table for attendees interested in more information, and even had food catered for the event by local BBQ restaurant, Redemption BBQ. Students worked hard for weeks to make this event come to life, and on April 4th everything came together with a total of 31 individuals attending and having a thought-provoking conversation about addiction misconceptions and the movie's impact on addiction awareness.

Group Members: Lydia Snyder, Dominic Bornman, Annah Barahona, Logan Sherman, and Ebla Hassan



Student Service Learning Projects



Shippensburg Community Resource Coalition: Silent Auction

Students worked with the SCRC to organize their annual silent auction. The students were tasked with contacting donors and collecting donations. Donations could be monetary donations or a themed basket. The goal for the silent auction was at least \$1400 and was surpassed at \$1680.

Group Members: Cristina Ledesma, Alyssa Collins, Amanda Smith, Kayla West



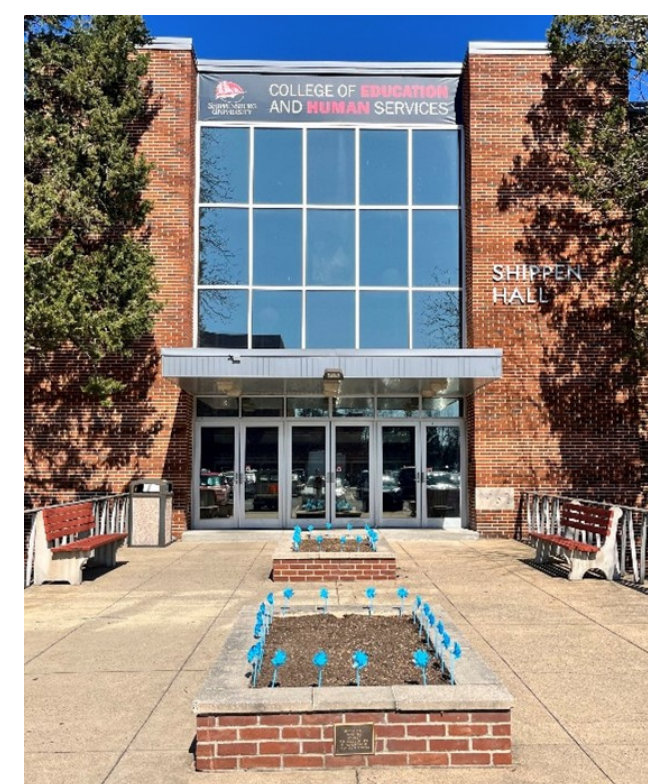
Student Service Learning Projects



Over the Rainbow Children's Advocacy Center: Child Abuse Awareness Month

Students assisted Over the Rainbow in raising awareness in Franklin County regarding child abuse and neglect. Group members tied ribbons around Shippensburg University campus, as well as along King Street in Shippensburg. Blue pinwheels were sold as a fundraiser to raise money for the organization. Pinwheels were sold throughout campus, door-to-door, and through families and friends. The group created an Instagram page to promote the sale of pinwheels. The fundraiser was a success with all 500 pinwheels sold. Donations were collected on behalf of Over the Rainbow, including 37 journals, 72 coloring books, 85 packs of crayons, 10 books, and 14 children's toys. The students also received \$76.05 in monetary donations for Over the Rainbow.

Group Members: Alicia Lau, Michelle Grippo, Kathryn McLaughlin, Makayla Boyd, Emilie DiGiacomo



Student Service Learning Projects



My Ascension Suicide Prevention Film

Students presented a 90 minute film to students at Shippensburg University in the Orndorff theater. The film took place on April 11th at 6pm and they partnered with Brian Wilson for the viewing. Brian Wilson represents the Cumberland/Perry Mental Health Agency. Brian provided the group with assistance with showing the film along with funding for food, pens, notebooks etc. The group created a newsletter, flyers and word of mouth to spread awareness about the film. Before and after the film a survey was completed by those who attended to assess the knowledge gained after the viewing. The goal was met and viewers gained new insights and expanded their knowledge on suicide awareness.

Group members: Serena Herrington, Andy Shetty, Kellin Brownell, Spencer Dieuveuil



Student Service Learning Projects

Circle of Love: Sock and Undergarment Drive

Students partnered with Circle of Love, a Shippensburg community outreach program, to collect socks, underwear, and bras for the Shippensburg community. Throughout the project, the goal was to improve clothing security in the Shippensburg community. The students set their goal high, hoping to collect 1,000 total items, 600 socks and 400 bras/underwear, and \$625 in monetary donations to purchase more items. Within a month of collecting donations, the students surpassed their initial goals. The students set up 5 donation boxes around the community. The students were also featured in the Shippensburg News Chronicle, Shippensburg Public Library Newsletter, as well as the weekly BSW email. The community donation boxes were located at the Coy Public Library of Shippensburg and Mowersville Church. The students collected 1,009 total items and \$797.23 in monetary donations. With the money raised, they were able to purchase 562 more items to be donated, making the final donation collectively 1,571 items.



Group Members: Keelan Kirchner
(Chairperson), Halle Zullinger (Historian),
Regyna Gantt (Publicist), Kerri Potteiger
(Community Liaison), Karina Ryabyy
(Evaluator)

Student Service Learning Projects

Shippensburg Area Middle School: Impactful Creations Wall Art Mural

Senior social work students from Shippensburg University partnered with students and staff at SAMS to create an art mural, located within a highly visible area along the middle school hallway. The overall goal for the mural was to promote positivity and to bring awareness about the importance of inclusivity. Over 43 staff members and 199 middle school students voted for an art design with the most “likes,” for a colorful display, show below. The mural was completed in about 6 weeks while gaining the attention of nearby staff, the SAMS newsletter, and the group’s followers on social media. Now the mural will greet all attending and prospective students at SAMS with a welcoming, vibrant environment along the school’s walls for years to come. To learn more about the mural, you can follow Impactful Creations at [SWK370ArtMural](#) on Instagram!



Group: Nafisah Conix, Maddie Kohler, Jay Harnish, Zoe Williard, and Lyann Terrero-Baez



Student Service Learning Projects

Love Your Body Event-Shippensburg University PAGE Center

Students worked with the PAGE center at Shippensburg University to host the Love Your Body event on campus. The goal was to advocate for body positivity among the campus community. The students set up multiple tables at the event to help students with participating in self-care activities. The students had a Zumba instructor at their event as well as other groups in the campus community that set up their tables to promote body positivity. Many Shippensburg University students attended the event and reported on a feedback survey that they are more aware of body image and positivity.



Group members:
Claire Knepper,
Fatumata
Barrie, Leah
Hoskins,
Kiersten Melder