Bridges

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK / FALL 2017



CRISIS ON MAIN STREET

CONGRATULATIONS!

THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK IS IN THE

TOP 10 OF ALL GRADUATE SCHOOLS OF SOCIAL WORK

ACCORDING TO *U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT'S* 2016 RANKINGS.

Bridges

Bridges is the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work magazine. We selected the name Bridges largely because of its symbolism. The term provides an important metaphor for both our profession and our school. Social work is a profession that has, as part of its mission, the goal of building and sustaining bridges among individuals, families, groups, neighborhoods, and communities, and we felt that the title *Bridges* captured this part of our professional mission. At the same time, the city of Pittsburgh has more than 450 bridges, and Allegheny County has almost 2,000, suggesting an uncompromising desire of the city's inhabitants to remain connected with one another. In keeping with this heritage, it is the school's goal to sustain and build bridges among those needing social work services; our students, alumni, faculty, and staff; the community; and corporate and governmental partners. We believe that the information in this magazine is an important way to achieve this goal.

CONTRIBUTORS

PUBLISHED BY THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Editor ..... Larry E. Davis, Dean

Assistant Editor ..... Rosemary A. Rinella

OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

Editor ..... Marygrace Reder

Editorial Associate ..... Sarah Jordan Rosenson

Writer ..... LaMont Jones Jr.

Art Director ..... Amy Porta Kleebank

Production Manager ..... Chuck Dinsmore

Bridges magazine is published biannually and is sent to alumni and friends of the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Feature

COVER STORY:

Crisis on Main Street: When Opioid Addiction Hits Home 8

Departments

Dean's Message 3

School News 4

Program Highlights 6

Research Update 14

Faculty Notes 15

Student Spotlight 20

CRSP Update 22

Development and Alumni News 24

University of Pittsburgh
School of Social Work

2117 Cathedral of Learning
4200 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15260

412-624-6304

socialwork.pitt.edu

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
University of Pittsburgh
Celebrating 100 Years of People, Policy and Practice

MIX Paper from responsible sources FSC® C110794

Printed on environmentally responsible paper.

PLEASE RECYCLE.

The University of Pittsburgh is an affirmative action, equal opportunity institution.

Published in cooperation with the Office of University Communications.
OUC110609-1117

Greetings, alumni and friends,

Once again, another school year is underway. We welcome back our students and look forward to another exciting year.

Unfortunately, our school, like the rest of the country, finds itself humbled by the recent mass shootings and environmental disasters as well as the country's long-standing racial problems. In many respects, our students will face a society that is experiencing very serious difficulties. It is my belief that social workers will increasingly be called upon to help our nation solve (or at least ameliorate) its present social ills. To this end, our school has even more steadfastly addressed these problems in teaching, problem solving, practice, and policy methods. Society needs the skills we teach now more than ever.

Still, we remain optimistic about the future while not forgetting our past. Almost a century ago, in 1918, our very first social work students were starting on their journey to make a difference in the world. In their courses, they studied subjects such as race and social problems, labor problems and immigration, and child welfare. One hundred years later, we as a country are still grappling with these thorny issues.

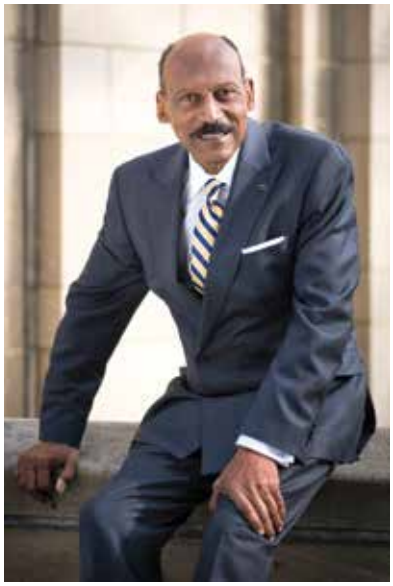
The school would not be celebrating 100 years of people, policy, and practice without our excellent students, alumni, staff, and faculty. It is due to their commitment to the school and the profession that the School of Social Work is a top-10 school.

Our dedicated faculty members have played a large role in achieving that ranking, bringing in record numbers of grants to train and provide research findings to the next generation of social workers. This is especially timely given the topic of this issue's cover story, America's opioid epidemic.

This is such a pervasive problem that there are probably many of you who are dealing with this issue, in either a professional or personal manner, every day. Social workers are on the front lines of this fight, and the compassion, insight, and training we provide can help to bring new perspectives to this public health crisis. Gerald Cochran, who was recently appointed associate dean for research, is leading much of the school's work on the opioid crisis.

In addition to the 100th anniversary of the school, this year we also are celebrating 15 years of the Center on Race and Social Problems. What started as America's first race research center housed in a school of social work has now grown into one of the country's most well-respected sources of race-related research and information. As I frequently say, having an idea is one thing, but having someone to back it is another. The University of Pittsburgh has been that backer for the center. By supporting a center with "race" in its title, the University was ahead of its time. With the University's unwavering support, and the support of law firms and foundations, the center has been able to provide the community with lectures and reports that impact regional policies.

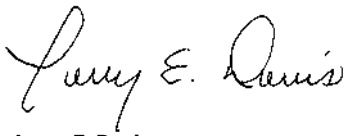
Additionally, this year we also are marking 60 years of the Community, Organization, and Social Action (COSA) program. COSA has led the way on issues from grassroots movements in cities to advocacy in government, and our alumni are leading nonprofits across the country. Tracy Soska has done a marvelous job of leading this program.



"IT IS MY BELIEF THAT SOCIAL WORKERS WILL INCREASINGLY BE CALLED UPON TO HELP OUR NATION SOLVE (OR AT LEAST AMELIORATE) ITS PRESENT SOCIAL ILLS. "

We began the celebration of our centennial year earlier this fall, and we hope you will join us for our speaker series and alumni events throughout the year. You can share your memories and photos and view a complete school timeline at **socialwork.pitt.edu/100th.**

Best wishes,



Larry E. Davis
Dean and Donald M. Henderson Professor,
University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work

Director, Center on Race and Social Problems

FACULTY PROMOTIONS

Valire Copeland, **Daniel Rosen**, and **Fengyan Tang** have been promoted to the rank of full professor.



Valire Copeland is associate dean of academic affairs and associate director of the Public Health Social Work Training Program. She received her BSW from Livingstone College and her MSW, MPH, and PhD from the University of Pittsburgh. Copeland's research focuses on integrated health care.



David E. Epperson Professor of Social Work **Daniel Rosen** received his PhD in social work and sociology, MSW, and BA in political science from the University of Michigan. His research interests include aging, substance abuse, late-life depression, and barriers to treatment.



Fengyan Tang earned her PhD and master's degrees in social work at Washington University in St. Louis. Her research interests include productive and social engagement in later life, well-being of caregivers for older adults, and aging experiences among immigrants.



Gerald Cochran, associate dean for research, was promoted to associate professor with tenure, effective September 1, 2017. Cochran earned his PhD at the University of Texas at Austin School of Social Work and completed postdoctoral training in the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. His research interests are centered on behavioral health services.

WELCOME, NEW STAFF



Laurie Mejia is the school's new research manager.

FALL 2017 SPEAKER SERIES

All lectures are from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the School of Social Work Conference Center, 2017 Cathedral of Learning. Lunch will be provided; registration is not required.

CENTER ON RACE AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC FALL 2017 SPEAKER SERIES

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26
"Toxic Inequality"
TOM SHAPIRO, Pokross Professor of Law and Social Policy and Director, Institute on Assets and Social Policy, Brandeis University

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25
"Parental Human Capital, Low-skilled Jobs, and Racial Disparities in Child Poverty in Immigrant Families"
KEVIN THOMAS, Associate Professor of Sociology, Demography, and African Studies, Pennsylvania State University

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2
"Navigating School Inequality: How Parents Pursue Magnet School Admissions"
LITTISHA BATES, Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Cincinnati

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7
"Race and Family Dynamics"
KAREN GUZZO, Associate Professor of Sociology, Bowling Green State University

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK 2017–18 SPEAKER SERIES

SEPTEMBER 18, 2017
"Place-based Engagement: The University of Pittsburgh's Engagement Centers"
LINA D. DOSTILIO, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Community Engagement Centers, University of Pittsburgh

OCTOBER 30, 2017
"Another World Is Possible! A Radical Political Agenda for Social Work"
CARL REDWOOD JR., Vice Chair, Board of Directors, Hill District Consensus Group

FEBRUARY 13, 2018
Raymond R. Webb Jr. Lecture
"Social Innovation and Social Work: Buzzword or Field Change?"
STEPHANIE BERZIN, Associate Professor, Children, Youth, and Families; Assistant Dean, Doctoral Program; and Codirector, Center for Social Innovation, School of Social Work, Boston College

MARCH 20, 2018
WORLD SOCIAL WORK DAY
Sidney A. Teller Lecture
"The New Global Inequities: Trends and Challenges for Today's Agents of Social Change"
JULIA WATKINS, Former Executive Director, Council on Social Work Education

AFTERNOON OF RECOGNITION

The School of Social Work held its Afternoon of Recognition for graduating students on Saturday, April 29, 2017, at Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hall & Museum. The keynote address was given by Stephen Paschall, an attorney at Lovett Bookman Harmon Marks LLP. Paschall serves as a member of the School of Social Work's Board of Visitors. ■



Stephen Paschall



Commencement 2017

ANNUAL BOARD OF VISITORS MEETING

The annual Board of Visitors dinner and business meeting was held on May 17 and 18, 2017. Attendees are pictured below.

Attending the Board of Visitors dinner on May 17 were (top photo, left to right) Rod Doss, Marc Cherna, James McDonald, Joy Starzl, Thomas VanKirk (chair), Dean Larry E. Davis, Alan Momeyer, Stephen Paschall, and Henry Loubet.

Attending the Board of Visitors meeting on May 18 were (bottom photo, left to right) Vice Provost Alberta Sbragia, Momeyer, James Browne, Davis, Loubet, McDonald, Paschall, Doris Carson Williams, VanKirk, Starzl, Cherna, Glenn Mahone, and Estelle Comay. ■





PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

BASW Program

UNDERGRADUATE SUMMER RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM CONTINUES TO ENGAGE SCHOLARS

Through the generous support of the provost's office, five undergraduate social work students were selected to work alongside research-engaged faculty members and were supported with a $1,000 fellowship this past summer. Bachelor of Arts in Social Work (BASW) students Cheryl Irwin, Kelly Nissley, Abigail Stern, Brandon Thomas, and Angelica Walker were selected to participate in the Summer Research Fellowship Program.

To learn more about undergraduate research opportunities, visit **socialwork.pitt.edu/researchtraining/undergraduate-research**.

MSW Program

RETIREMENT

Lynn Coghill retired as director of the MSW program on June 30, 2017. We would like to thank Coghill for her service as the program's director for the last 10 years and for her service to the School of Social Work and the University over the last 17 years.

Coghill also was named the 2015 Social Worker of the Year by the National Association of Social Workers Pennsylvania Chapter. To learn more about her career, read "Social Work's Lynn Coghill: A Different Kind of Grace" at **pi.tt/LynnCoghill**.

PhD Program

CONGRATULATIONS, DOCTORAL GRADUATES!

Rachel Goode (MSW '06, PhD '17)
Nahri Jung (PhD '17)
Yoo Jung Kim (PhD '17)
Eric Kyere (PhD '17)
Courtney Queen (PhD '16)





Lynn Coghill (right)

BUILDING ON A LEGACY OF CAREER DEVELOPMENT IN SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION



Celebrating its 25th year, the Consortium for Career Development in Social Work Education gathered in June 2017 at the University of Pittsburgh for a three-day conference focusing on the importance of career services in social work education. Twenty-two career services directors and advisors from social work programs across the United States attended. The conference provided opportunities to share and explore new ideas. Improving career services for social work students was a central focus for the conference, specifically enhancing career development in the social work profession through field education and alumni/employer relations.

Participants represented schools of social work at Washington University in St Louis; the University of Alabama; the University of Pennsylvania; the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; the University of Southern California; the University of Chicago; Ohio State University; the University of Texas at Austin; West Chester University of Pennsylvania; the University of California, Los Angeles; Indiana University; Dominican University; the University of Maryland; Boston College; and the University of Michigan.

Conference attendees were exposed to a wide variety of topics, including salary negotiation, coaching, careers in the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, alumni relations in career development, career pathways in policy and macro practice, and LinkedIn. The consortium also held its annual business meeting, which included a strategic planning session for the 2017–18 academic year.

Throughout the entire conference, best practices were shared and schools showcased their signature programs to foster collaboration and creativity in career services programming.

The consortium met again in October 2017 at the Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting in Dallas, Texas.

For consortium membership information, please contact Bobby Simmons at bobby@pitt.edu. ■

CONSORTIUM BOARD MEMBERS:

NICOLE L. BRUEGGEMAN, MSW, LCSW, MA, Copresident
Assistant Director of Career Services, Washington University in St. Louis George Warren Brown School of Social Work

JENNIFER LUNA JACKSON, MSSW, Copresident
Director, DiNitto Center for Career Services, University of Texas at Austin School of Social Work

MICHAEL JOGERST, PHD, Vice Chair
Assistant Dean and Director of Career Services, University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration

KATIE JUSTICE, MSW, LISW, Secretary
Director of Career Services, Ohio State University College of Social Work

ANN LIBERMAN, MSW, Membership Coordinator
Director of Alumni, Career, and Professional Development, University of Houston Graduate College of Social Work

MICHELLE WOODS, MSW, Treasurer
Director, MSW Student Career Services, University of Michigan School of Social Work

BOBBY SIMMONS, MSW, Conference Coordinator
Director of Career Services/VanKirk Career Center, University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work

Crisis on Main Street

When Opioid Addiction Hits Home

By LaMont Jones Jr.

Treetops sway in the breeze on a balmy late summer afternoon in a small rural community about 30 miles northwest of Pittsburgh. On an attractive campus-style complex just off a highway, several adults socialize on a wooden deck while others toss a ball on a nearby lawn as laughter and chirping birds punctuate a serene quietness.

Since 1972, this former farm has been the site of Gateway Rehab, where medical experts, licensed professional counselors, and social workers help people caught in the grips of the national opioid addiction and overdose epidemic. The public health crisis is dominating national and local headlines as the death toll climbs—every 33 days sees a number of deaths comparable to the terrorist attacks of 9/11.

"It's a national crisis, certainly, and in Western Pennsylvania, it's absolutely a regional crisis," says Neil Capretto, Gateway Rehab's medical director and a national authority on the topic. "I've watched it develop literally on a day-by-day basis over the last 20 years. When I finished my psychiatry residency in 1985, there were two drug overdose deaths in Allegheny County that year. There were 650 last year. That's a nightmare. And surrounding counties are seeing similar trends. If we had a serial killer killing 1/10 of that, the National Guard and CNN would be coming in. We do have a serial killer, and it's addiction. It's killing our neighbors, our family members, [and] our coworkers, and it does not discriminate by age or ethnicity or where you live."

Fueled by a rise in the use of heroin and prescription pain medications, opioid abuse has grown quietly into a beastly juggernaut that has thrust itself into the public spotlight. The nation's foremost public health officials are declaring it the worst drug crisis in U.S. history.

The numbers associated with the impact of opioid addiction and overdose are alarming. Last year, nationwide, the number of overdose deaths caused by heroin (an opiate) outstripped deaths due to gun violence, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). On an average day, 91 Americans die from an overdose of heroin or another opioid and 3,900 people start nonmedical use of prescription opioids. Additionally, heroin-related deaths more than tripled from 2010 to 2015, and approximately 12.5 million Americans abused prescription opioids in 2015.

Closer to home, reported opioid overdose deaths in Allegheny County, Pa., increased from 234 in 2008 to 650 last year, with 480 as of October 29, 2017, according to OverdoseFreePA, a partnership of Pennsylvania communities dedicated to fighting the opioid overdose crisis.

Capretto also highlights a critical need for help for individuals and families impacted by a health issue that demands medical intervention and treatment.

"Social workers are trained and positioned to make a big difference because they are taught to see the bigger picture of not just an individual using drugs but a person in the context of a society with problems and an individual with problems," he says.

While adult White males are disproportionately represented among the ranks of those addicted to and overdosing on opioids, the crisis cuts across gender, race, age, and socioeconomic lines.

> "Social workers are trained and positioned to make **a big difference** because they are taught to see the bigger picture of not just an individual using drugs but a person in the context of a society with problems and an individual with problems."
>
> – Neil Capretto





"Capretto, who cochaired a national task force that issued a report on the crisis in 2014, has watched the current crisis unfold over the decades. The needle-injected heroin that once ravaged urban inner-city landscapes in the 1970s eventually became available in cheaper forms imported by drug cartels, variations that could be snorted and over time became a less-expensive, easier-to-get alternative to the prescription pain pills that were the primary causes of opioid addiction among suburban and rural populations.

And so opioid addiction and overdoses "reached a magnitude that was hard to ignore—it hit Main Street, America," Capretto says. "It's hard to find anybody who hasn't been impacted or doesn't know somebody close to them who has been impacted by the opioid crisis."

More than a Public Health Issue

Addressing the crisis is a social justice issue in more ways than one and has a lot to do with the issue of race, says Pitt associate professor of social work and associate dean for research Gerald Cochran. Although opioid addiction and deaths cut across all social strata, there is a public perception (with which Cochran agrees) that the issue did not receive significant attention and response until the children of upper-class Whites began dying from overdoses.

Meanwhile, public health issues that primarily affect less-privileged social groups haven't received the same urgent response, "which is problematic right now in the United States" given recent flare-ups of racial division, Cochran contends.

In the thick of the response are social workers, who witness the ravages and devastation as they work at the forefront of aiding those affected.

"I left school with basic group and individual counseling skills and the understanding of addiction as an illness," says Ellen Corona, clinical manager at Gateway Rehab's Green Tree location since 1999. "My degree prepared me to become a therapist at Gateway 32 years ago. At the time, opioid use was not nearly as prevalent as it is now. While we have always educated our clients about the disease concept of addiction and taught them that addiction can be fatal if left untreated, I don't think anything could have prepared me for the large numbers of clients we've been losing to overdose deaths in the last few years."

Corona's role is a whirlwind of activity: orienting, training, and supervising staff, interns, and volunteers; providing case consultations; solving problems; performing daily documentation audits of electronic medical records; monitoring staff and managed care authorizations; conducting routine safety and emergency management drills and inspections; and coping with client deaths.

"I think the current opioid overdose epidemic is one of the most serious health crises this country has ever faced," she says. "We have lost clients of every race, gender, and socioeconomic background. Almost every day, a client comes in and mentions someone dying. People are losing someone all the time. It's scary and it's sad. It has reinforced my belief that opiates are too accessible and that alternatives for pain management are needed."

The crisis has compelled Gateway Rehab and other service providers to think beyond the traditional abstinence-based model of recovery from addiction.

"It became clear in the last few years that the traditional model was not successful with many of our clients addicted to opiates," says Corona. "Our clients were dying. That was a very powerful realization that caused me to have a shift in my thinking about what we could and should be doing differently."

A big result was the introduction of medication-assisted treatment, which involves the use of medications such as Revia and Vivitrol alongside long-standing approaches to treatment such as education, intensive therapy, and 12-step programs like Narcotics Anonymous.

"Many of our staff have struggled with this shift, as have many in the recovering community," says Corona. "For me, I believe that every day we keep someone [who is] addicted to opiates alive and functional is a win."

Continued on page 10

Continued from page 9

The opioid epidemic is an unusual drug crisis in that it significantly impacts all age ranges. While fatal overdoses increased nationally among all age cohorts from 2010 to 2015, according to CDC, the greatest increase was among adults ages 55–64, and the highest overall rates were in the 45–54 age bracket.

Those facts underscore a need for special attention to older persons addicted to opioids, says Daniel Rosen, David E. Epperson Professor of Social Work at the University of Pittsburgh, who has an interest in studying addiction in the aging population.

"Older adults who have been overprescribed pain medications are at particular risk," he observes, noting that more than 15 percent of opioid overdose deaths in Allegheny County since 2008 have been people age 55 and older and that nearly one-fourth of such deaths in the county in 2016 were adults ages 45–54.

"Limited resources exist for addiction treatment for older adults, and it is a vulnerable population that is often socially isolated," Rosen points out. "In order to adequately address the opioid epidemic, multiple social service and health care agencies will need to be adequately trained to screen for and treat opioid misuse."

In addition, he recommends that social workers in various social service settings be trained to address the opioid epidemic and its nuances. "There is a ripple effect across the human service sector from foster care to older adult services that are being impacted by this crisis. Social workers, with their training in interdisciplinary care and collaboration, are well poised to play a critical role in addressing this epidemic."

Social workers, Corona adds, can address the problem before it gets to the point of dealing with broken families, workplace problems, and other repercussions of addiction, overdose, and death. A key component is becoming educated about addiction "so as to recognize the signs and symptoms and make appropriate referrals for treatment as early as possible," she says.

Social workers tend to serve many roles, and the opioid crisis is testing that ability, observes Cheryl Cooper (MSW '00), a therapist at JADE Wellness Center in Monroeville, Pa., which provides outpatient treatment and has been addressing opiate addiction since its opening in 2010.

"We very often wear a number of different hats," notes Cooper. "We are case managers, educators, [and] prevention specialists. We [wear all those hats] for all of our clients. I think the advantage that social workers have over licensed professional counselors is we have more knowledge and avenues about how to access those core basic needs of a client. People come to us with a lot of needs. If someone doesn't have food or shelter, no amount of therapy in the world will fix the addiction. Basic needs have to be met, like health insurance and a safe place to live."

The opioid epidemic is an unusual drug crisis in that it **significantly impacts all age ranges.**

Due largely to the opioid crisis, JADE has expanded to facilities at three locations in Allegheny County. Like Gateway Rehab and other licensed treatment facilities, JADE goes beyond medical solutions by providing daily individual and group sessions led mostly by licensed professional counselors and social workers as well as occasional overdose prevention lectures by medical staff members.

When the opioid crisis began to emerge publicly as a major news event, Cooper was among those who wondered if the problem was receiving greater attention because it had evolved from being a problem primarily in poor Black urban neighborhoods to a plague on White middle-class suburban communities. That unanswered question has faded to the background as she draws on her social work education at Pitt and 23 years in the addiction field to help people recover.

"I've never seen it this bad," Cooper says. "But I love what I do. I focus on the positive outcomes, rather than dwell on the negatives, because if I did that, I would drown—because almost daily, I hear about an overdose death."

Federal help has increased for Cooper and others in the trenches. Medicaid expansion under President Barack Obama's Affordable Care Act, as well as the standing order for naloxone (Narcan) signed by Allegheny County Health Department Director Karen Hacker in 2015, increased access for many without insurance who otherwise could not afford treatment. The standing order allows any licensed pharmacy in the county that chooses to participate to dispense naloxone to individuals at risk of a heroin- or opioid-related overdose or those who may witness one. And last spring, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced it would award $485 million in federal grants to all states and U.S. territories to address the crisis. In August, following a report issued by the President's Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis, President Donald Trump declared the problem a national emergency and pledged more money to federal agencies and states to implement the panel's recommendations, which included making overdose antidotes more widely available and waiving some health regulations to ease access to intervention and treatment.

The heightened attention and increased resources in recent years have been hailed by those in the field.

"We cannot arrest our way out of this problem," Gateway Rehab's Capretto warns, echoing other experts. "It's a public health crisis, which involves many things."

At the Gateway Rehab flagship facility in Aliquippa, Pa., which opened in 1972, Capretto works with multiple patients each day, as about 300 addicts are admitted each month. Administration was moved to a building in a nearby town six years ago so that the space could be transformed into a 28-bed inpatient detox center, which usually is filled and has a

waiting list by early afternoon. The campus has another building with 42 beds for youths and young adults in treatment, with a total of 192 beds in three buildings.

Overall, Gateway Rehab has nine outpatient satellites in Western Pennsylvania that serve about 1,500 active patients. Most are opioid-addicted clients, some as young as 14 and a few in their 70s, says Capretto.

"I never imagined it would reach this magnitude," he confesses. "A lot of people thought I was overexaggerating. I think people thought it didn't affect them, that it was happening to other people—then that [notion] started falling apart."

Creating an Environment of Recovery

Capretto sees hope in a holistic, multi-pronged approach that incorporates education for prevention, better training for medical professionals about how to treat pain, physician databases with prescription tracking, adequate treatment resources, long-term follow-up for patients, and law enforcement working to curb the amount of heroin and fentanyl flowing illegally into the United States.

Efforts to make Gateway Rehab in Aliquippa a healing environment are apparent to visitors. Amenities include a small store, cafeteria, gymnasium, library, chapel, and enclosed garden courtyard. Natural light that spills through large windows is hoped to dispel the darkness into which so many there have been plunged.

Heroin and opioid painkillers—including prescription ones—act similarly on the brain, and using even one opioid painkiller as prescribed can increase a person's chances of getting hooked on the medication or heroin. Death rates from legally prescribed opioids grew 4 percent from 2014 to 2015, according to CDC, a rate that suggests some success in efforts to reduce overprescribing by doctors. However, during the same time period, use of illegally obtained opioids such as oxycodone, methadone, and fentanyl—the drug involved in the

Continued on page 13

The Substance Use Disorder Team at Pittsburgh Mercy

By LaMont Jones Jr.

The opioid overdose crisis is as personal as it is professional for many social workers, including Christina Urie (MSW '09), an outpatient therapist at Pittsburgh Mercy.

"I have known several people who have passed from overdose and had multiple clients who have overdosed and died," says Urie, a native of Connellsville, Pa. "I have on multiple occasions needed to be the person to tell my group that a group member has passed and then deal with what this brings up in others. It is hard not to become numb because you hear of it happening so frequently, especially in helping clients who feel numb due to the sheer number of people they know who overdose. It keeps me aware that this struggle is real and that one bad choice is all it takes."

Pittsburgh Mercy regularly provides internships for University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work students, and Urie interned there herself from September 2008 to April 2009. The real-world experiences complemented her classroom education, she says, and allowed her to practice what she was learning from professors who are active in the field of social work and who can "better relate the education to how we would use it in the workforce." Urie joined Pittsburgh Mercy full time one month after graduating and now is part of a new program created to address the opioid epidemic.

"The Substance Use Disorder Team was launched in November 2016 to have an updated approach to delivering care based on population needs rather than site-based services," says program administrator Kevin Gallagher. Gallagher's role has been to build and manage an outpatient therapist team that focuses on serving the rising number of people experiencing substance use disorders. Since its inception, the team has served approximately 1,200 people seeking addiction treatment.

"I would say we are seeing about half of our people, at the least, have some history of issues with opioids," says Gallagher.

Medication-assisted treatment (MAT)—which uses maintenance drugs such as methadone, Suboxone, and naltrexone to ease withdrawal from heroin and prescription drugs that contain other opiates—has become a valuable method of helping individuals to battle opiate addiction, says Gallagher.

Continued on page 12



Pictured from left to right are Christina Urie (MSW '09), Erin Kelly (MSW '16), and Kevin Gallagher.

Continued from page 11

"We are trying to come up with procedures and work flows for communicating with the doctors who are prescribing the medications but are not part of Pittsburgh Mercy," he explains. "That is all piggybacking off of our creation and implementation of an integrated MAT program within Pittsburgh Mercy, where we will be able to induce and maintain people on Suboxone while giving psychotherapeutic treatment all under the same umbrella."

Gallagher also is coordinating the addition of care management and case management services, along with nurse health navigators and peer support, to best meet the varied needs of clients served. He says that he is excited about the potential benefits of the integrated MAT program, which launched in September 2017, saying that it promises to more fully serve people on an outpatient basis while reaching other highly vulnerable populations, such as people served on the streets by Pittsburgh Mercy's Operation Safety Net and Mercy's Community Support Services teams.



New and effective approaches to addressing the opioid epidemic require social workers, perhaps now more than ever, to facilitate collaboration among stakeholders and to think outside the box.

"We all need to start realizing that we can't keep our services 'siloed' from one another," says Gallagher. "We need to coordinate our efforts. So whether you are working specifically in drug and alcohol treatment or you are working in community housing, primary care, or in any number of agencies and companies, everyone needs to work together. Addiction can affect every aspect of a person's life, so it's not as simple as just focusing on that one form of treatment."

Additionally, he says, social workers must stay updated about all resources available to individuals affected by addiction, including programs such as MAT and harm-reduction methods.

Addiction of Body and Mind

Corresponding with the growth of the opioid epidemic is the demand for social workers to serve individuals who have a dual diagnosis of mental health and substance use disorders. This is clear to Associate Dean for Research Gerald Cochran, who has been studying various aspects of the opioid crisis.

"People with preexisting conditions like substance abuse are at higher risk," Cochran says, adding that often doctors do not screen patients for mental or behavioral health issues before prescribing medication containing an opiate.

"To get methadone or one of the other two prime medical treatments, people should also be getting behavioral health counseling," Cochran says. "So there's a huge need within the system for providers to meet the needs of this population. And social workers do the lion's share of that work in most states in the country."

Urie says that the majority of her clients have a dual diagnosis, and Erin Kelly (MSW '16) has faced the same reality during her internship at Pittsburgh Mercy and her tenure there since. Kelly says that she feels equipped to meet the challenges.

"I jumped right into doing group and individual psychotherapy as an intern and continued on as a full-time outpatient therapist immediately after graduation," she says. "If anything, my experiences have strengthened my decision to be a social worker. Going into the field, I had the belief that I wouldn't really know if I could hack it until I actually experienced being a full-time social worker. The education, self-care, and preparation are important, but the hands-on experience is a whole other level."

Like Urie, Kelly personally knew people who died from an overdose and has had to deal with that while trying to prevent the same thing from happening to her clients.

"In this day and age, unfortunately, almost everyone is affected by opioid addiction in some way," says Kelly. "It's scary, but the more we stigmatize addiction and minimize emotional health, the more we are pushing people away from the help that is out there."

Both women say that despite the personal challenges of social work and helping people in crisis to navigate choppy waters, they are more committed to the field than ever.

"Having the chance to help others improve themselves has been a wonderful opportunity that I feel social work and being a therapist have brought to me and fuel my desire to stay in the field even when it is difficult," says Urie. "My education helped to get me thinking and, I feel, has kept me thinking about the roles I can play." ■



"I want to see my friends stop dying."
– Patrick Bibza

Continued from page 11

2016 death of pop star Prince that is 50 times stronger than pure heroin—grew an alarming 74 percent from 2014 to 2015.

Patrick Bibza, a Pitt student who interned at Gateway Rehab under Corona's supervision, decided to join the fight against the opioid crisis by earning a master's degree in social work with an emphasis on mental health, particularly drug and alcohol treatment. The journey began with his own struggle with opioid addiction.

After graduating from high school in a small community about 30 miles northeast of Pittsburgh and prior to earning a bachelor's degree in behavioral health from Point Park University, Bibza joined the U.S. Navy. A week before his deployment in 2008, he sustained a severe knee injury that required two surgeries. During that time, he had his first use of an opiate in the form of a doctor-prescribed pain medicine. Bibza pinpoints that event as the beginning of a long struggle with addiction.

"I saw a lot of substance abuse in and out of the service," he says, adding that he has witnessed numerous relatives and friends struggle with opioid and various other types of addiction.

Complicating the matter was Bibza's personal fight to resist the lure of alcohol, which he hopes to do on a broader scale as he witnesses the powerful effect of media images on youth perceptions of drug use and drinking.

"Alcohol has always been something exciting to me, easily available, thrown in your face," he says. "I developed a core belief that in order to have fun, you need to drink. That message is sent to lots of kids who don't know the consequences."

During Bibza's second internship at Gateway Rehab, he assisted with group therapy for adolescents each day and cofacilitated an adult therapy group once a week.

"The biggest thing I've come to learn and completely agree with is that addiction is a disease," says Bibza.

He counts at least 10 friends, all under the age of 25, who have died from a drug overdose. And with every funeral comes a growing desire to help prevent more overdose deaths.

"I want to see my friends stop dying," he says. "Every time I go to a funeral, I wish I could have helped them. What confuses them is that [addiction] is their choice, but it is a disease. I have someone very close to me who is in recovery and doing extremely well. Her story started as most do, with the overprescribing of pain medication and without a step-down system from the meds or proper addiction education or therapy. It gets to the point where people aren't getting high to cope any more, they are buying and using just in order to survive and not be 'dope sick.' A lot of people don't understand just how bad that feeling is and how long it lasts, but also there is always the very real possibility that [what] you are about to use will kill you."

Bibza is angered by negative public perceptions and stigma about addiction and those who grapple with it. His view, shared by experts in the field, is that compassion, treatment, and support are the cures rather than disdain, disparagement, and imprisonment.

"If you haven't been there, you don't know what they're going through," says Bibza. "A lot of addicts do terrible things, but that's not who they are. It's the drug, not the person. One thing I hear a lot about addicts is, 'They just need to stop.' It's not just stopping but doing other things."

It's doing the kind of things that Gateway Rehab, JADE, Pittsburgh Mercy, and similar agencies help to provide. It's doing the kind of things that Bibza hopes to offer one day on a large scale. As a recovering addict, he says, he has to avoid bars, concerts, sporting events, and other places where alcohol is served—and he knows many people who have to avoid those venues as well.

Armed with education and experience, he says that his life calling is to establish "hundreds if not thousands of centers that allow addicts to come together and watch sporting events, shoot pool, and throw darts—do the things that they love doing but without drugs and alcohol being shoved in their face."

There is necessarily much focus on the disease of addiction, says Bibza, but he wants to start "a disease of recovery. Recovery needs to be fun. There isn't a place for people in healthy recovery to live their lives. There should be places where addicts can come together every day and help each other and enjoy life again." ■



Expanding Our Research Agenda

by Valire Carr Copeland

The health disparities agenda of the past 20 years has had an important influence on my work. My research agenda initially focused on prenatal care, access to quality gynecological and obstetric health care, childhood immunizations, and community health services. It now has expanded to examine the biopsychosocial impact of chronic disease diagnosis on African American women and workforce training.

Most recently, my collaborators and I have been examining the extent of change in women's health status given the funded research investigations that would result in findings that would allow us to develop health promotion programs to bridge racial and ethnic disparities in the health status of women of color. Two recent projects whose findings will contribute to women's health are an examination of major depression and cardiovascular disease and a meta-analysis of randomized clinical trials for breast cancer screening. Both projects focus on African American women. My funded projects focus on workforce training for integrated behavioral health care.

My colleagues and I examined the co-occurring existence of major depressive disorder (MDD) and cardiovascular disease (CVD) in a nationally representative sample of African American women. Our secondary data analysis of the National Survey of American Life found high rates of MDD and CVD in the sample, and African American women with MDD were 1.59 times more likely to have CVD compared to those without MDD. High rates of MDD/CVD comorbidity appeared for those African American women living in and not living in poverty. These women demonstrated greater functional impairment and were high users of mental health services.

In another project, Effectiveness of Interventions for Breast Cancer Screening in African American Women: A Meta-analysis, my colleagues and I conducted a meta-analysis of randomized clinical trials in breast cancer screening for African American women. Our findings suggest targeted screening interventions are at least minimally effective for promoting mammography among African American women, but research in this area is limited to a small number of studies. Although no patient or study characteristics significantly moderated screening efficacy, the most effective interventions were those specifically tailored to meet the perceived risk of African American women. More research is needed to enhance the efficacy of existing interventions and reduce the high morbidity and mortality rates in this underserved population.

The School of Social Work continues to strengthen its health curriculum with funding from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation to integrate adolescent substance abuse screening, brief intervention, and treatment throughout our MSW program, and our Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training for Social Work program continues to prepare MSW students to meet the needs of youths in integrated health care settings. ■



"MORE RESEARCH IS NEEDED TO ENHANCE THE EFFICACY OF EXISTING INTERVENTIONS AND REDUCE THE HIGH MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY RATES IN THIS UNDERSERVED POPULATION."

VALIRE CARR COPELAND,
Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, Associate Director of the Public Health Social Work Training Program, and faculty affiliate in the Center for Health Equity at the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health

JOURNAL ARTICLES



Jaime M. Booth with Anthony, E.K., "Measuring Well-being among Children and Adolescents in the Behavioral Health System: Clinicians' Perspectives on Current Practices," *Children and Youth Services Review*, 76: 84–91, 2017.

Booth with Ohmer, M.L., Teixeira, S., Zuberi, A., and Kolke, D., "Preventing Violence in Disadvantaged Communities: Strategies for Building Collective Efficacy and Improving Community Health," *Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment*, 26(7–8): 608–21, 2016.

Booth with Urbaeva, Z., and Wei, K., "The Relationship between Cultural Identification, Family Socialization and Adolescent Alcohol Use among Native American Families," *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, published online May 18, 2017.



Gerald Cochran with Bahorik, A.L., Greeno, C.G., Cornelius, J.R., and Eack, S.M., "Motivation Deficits and Use of Alcohol and Illicit Drugs among Individuals with Schizophrenia," *Psychiatry Research*, 253: 391–7, 2017.

Cochran with Field, C., DiClemente, C., and Caetano, R., "Latent Classes among Recipients of a Brief Alcohol Intervention: A Replication Analysis," *Behavioral Medicine*, 42(1): 29–38, 2016.

Cochran with Gordon, A., Lo-Ciganic, W., Gellad, W.F., Cathers, T., and Donohue J.M., "Treatment Quality for Buprenorphine Care: The Pot at the End of the Rainbow," *Journal of Addiction Medicine*, 10(3): 210–11, 2016.

Cochran with Gordon, A.J., Lo-Ciganic, W., Gellad, W.F., Frazier, W., Lobo, C., Chang, H., Zheng, P., and Donohue, J.M., "An Examination of Claims-based Predictors of Overdose from a Large Medicaid Program," *Medical Care*, 55(3): 291–8, 2017.

Cochran with Hruschak, V., DeFosse, B., and Hohmeier, K.C., "Prescription Opioid Abuse: Pharmacists' Perspective and Response," *Integrated Pharmacy Research and Practice*, 5: 65–73, 2016.

Cochran with Lo-Ciganic, W., Gellad, W.F., Gordon, A.J., Zemaitis, M.A., Cathers, T., Kelley, D., and Donohue, J.M., "Association between Trajectories of Buprenorphine Treatment and Emergency Department and In-patient Utilization," *Addiction*, 111(5): 892–902, 2016.

Valire Carr Copeland with Choi, E., and Tang, F., "Racial/Ethnic Inequality among Older Workers: Focusing on Whites, Blacks, and Latinos within the Cumulative Advantage/Disadvantage Framework," *Journal of Social Service Research*, 43(1): 18–36, 2017.



Larry E. Davis, "Race: America's Grand Challenge," *Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research*, 7(2): 395–403, 2016.



Shaun M. Eack, "Targeting Social and Non-social Cognition to Improve Cognitive Remediation Outcomes in Schizophrenia," *Evidence-based Mental Health*, 19: 28, 2016.

Eack with Bahorik, A.L., Greeno, C.G., Cochran, G., and Cornelius, J.R., "Motivation Deficits and Use of Alcohol and Illicit Drugs among Individuals with Schizophrenia," *Psychiatry Research*, 253: 391–7, 2017.

Eack with Bishop-Fitzpatrick, L., Mazefsky, C.A., and Minshew, N.J., "Correlates of Social Functioning in Autism Spectrum Disorder: The Role of Social Cognition," *Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders*, 35: 25–34, 2017.

Eack with Bishop-Fitzpatrick, L., Minshew, N.J., and Mazefsky, C.A., "Perception of Life as Stressful, Not Biological Response to Stress, Is Associated with Greater Social Disability in Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder," *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, 47(1): 1–16, 2017.

Eack with Fox, J.M., Abram, S.V., Reilly, J.L., Goldman, M.B., Wang, L., Csernansky, J.G., and Smith, M.J., "Default Mode Functional Connectivity Is Associated with Social Functioning in Schizophrenia," *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, 126(4): 392–405, 2017.

Eack with Haigh, S.M., Gupta, A., Barb, S.M., Glass, S.A.F., Minshew, N.J., Dinstein, I., Heeger, D.J., and Behrmann, M., "Differential Sensory fMRI Signatures in Autism and Schizophrenia: Analysis of Amplitude and Trial-to-Trial Variability," *Schizophrenia Research*, 175(1–3): 12–19, 2016.

Eack with Hogarty, S.S., Bangalore, S.S., Keshavan, M.S., and Cornelius, J.R., "Patterns of Substance Use during Cognitive Enhancement Therapy: An 18-month Randomized Feasibility Study," *Journal of Dual Diagnosis*, 12(1): 74–82, 2016.

Eack with Keshavan, M.S., Prasad, K.M., Haller, C.S., and Cho, R.Y., "Longitudinal Functional Brain Imaging Study in Early Course Schizophrenia Before and After Cognitive Enhancement Therapy," *NeuroImage*, 151: 55–64, 2017.

Eack with Newhill, C.E., and Keshavan, M.S., "Cognitive Enhancement Therapy Improves Resting-state Functional Connectivity in Early Course Schizophrenia," *Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research*, 7(2): 211–30, 2016.

Eack with Schutt, R.K., Seidman, L.J., Deck, B., and Keshavan, M.S., "Adapting Cognitive Remediation to a Group Home: A Brief Report," *Asian Journal of Psychiatry* 25: 184–7, 2017.

Eack with Watson, A.C., Fulambarker, A., Kondrat, D.C., Holley, L.C., Kranke, D., Wilkins, B.T., and Stromwell, L.K., "Social Work Faculty and Mental Illness Stigma," *Journal of Social Work Education*, 53(2): 174–86, 2017.

Continued on page 16

Continued from page 15

Eack with Wojtalik, J.A., Barb, S.M., Newhill, C.E., Keshavan, M.S., and Phillips, M.L., "Fronto-limbic Brain Dysfunction during the Regulation of Emotion in Schizophrenia," *PLOS ONE*, 11(3): e0149297, 2016.

Eack with Wojtalik, J.A., Keshavan, M.S., and Minshew, N.J., "Social-cognitive Brain Function and Connectivity during Visual Perspective-taking in Autism and Schizophrenia," *Schizophrenia Research*, 183: 102–9, 2017.



Christina E. Newhill with Bell, M.M., "Psychometrics of an Original Measure of Barriers to Providing Family Planning Information: Implications for Social Service Providers," *Social Work in Health Care*, 56(6): 556–72, 2017.

Newhill with Eack, S.M., and Keshavan, M.S., "Cognitive Enhancement Therapy Improves Resting-state Functional Connectivity in Early Course Schizophrenia," *Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research*, 7(2): 211–30, 2016.

Newhill with Eack, S.M., Wojtalik, J.A., Barb, S.M., Keshavan, M.S., and Phillips, M.L., "Fronto-limbic Brain Dysfunction during the Regulation of Emotion in Schizophrenia," *PLOS ONE*, 11(3): e0149297, 2016.

Newhill with Fusco, R.A., and Jung, N., "Maternal Victimization and Child Trauma: The Mediating Role of Mothers' Affect," *Children and Youth Services Review*, 67: 247–53, 2016.

Newhill with Nguyen, N.N., "The Role of Religiosity as a Protective Factor against Marijuana Use among African-American, White, Asian, and Hispanic Adolescents," *Journal of Substance Use*, 21(5): 547–52, 2016.



Mary L. Ohmer, "Strategies for Preventing Youth Violence: Facilitating Collective Efficacy among Youth and Adults," *Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research*, 7(4): 681–705, 2016.

Ohmer with Teixeira, S., Booth, J., Zuberi, A., and Kolke, D., "Preventing Violence in Disadvantaged Communities: Strategies for Building Collective Efficacy and Improving Community Health, *Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment*, 26(7–8): 608–21, 2016.



Daniel Rosen with Cochran, G., McCarthy, R.M., and Engel, R.J., "Risk Factors for Symptoms of Prescription Opioid Misuse: Do Older Adults Differ from Younger Adult Patients?" *Journal of Gerontological Social Work*, published online May 10, 2017.

Rosen with Engel, R., McCall, J., and Greenhouse, J., "Using Problem-solving Therapy to Reduce Depressive Symptom Severity among Older Adult Methadone Clients: A Randomized Clinical Trial," *Research on Social Work Practice*, published online January 6, 2017.

Rosen with McCall, J., and Brusoski, M., "Research with Older Adult Methadone Clients: The Importance of Monitoring Suicide Ideation," *Journal of Gerontological Social Work*, published online May 10, 2017

Rosen with McCall, J., and Goodkind, S., "Teaching Critical Self-reflection through the Lens of Cultural Humility: An Assignment in a Social Work Diversity Course," *Social Work Education*, 36(3): 289–98, 2017.

Fengyan Tang, "Retirement Patterns and Their Relationship to Volunteering," *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*, 45(5): 910–30, 2016.

Tang, "Senior Centres in the Lives of Older Americans: Implications for Chinese Older Adults," *China Journal of Social Work*, 10(1): 39–51, 2017.

Tang with Chi, I., and Dong, X., "The Relationship of Social Engagement and Social Support with Sense of Community," *The Journal of Gerontology, Series A: Biological Sciences and Medical Sciences*, 72(suppl_1): S102–7, 2017.

Tang with Choi, E., Kim, S., and Turk, P., "Longitudinal Relationships between Productive Activities and Functional Health in Later Years: A Multivariate Latent Growth Curve Modeling Approach," *The International Journal of Aging and Human Development*, 83(4): 418–40, 2016.

Tang with Jang, H., "The Effects of Social Support and Volunteering on Depression among Grandparents Raising Grandchildren," *The International Journal of Aging and Human Development*, 83(4): 491–507, 2016.

Tang with Xu, L., Chi, I., and Dong, X., "Psychological Well-being of Older Chinese-American Grandparents Caring for Grandchildren," *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*, 64(11): 2356–61, 2016.

Tang with Xu, L., Li, L.W., and Dong, X.Q., "Grandparent Caregiving and Psychological Well-being among Chinese American Older Adults—The Roles of Caregiving Burden and Pressure," *The Journal of Gerontology, Series A: Biological Sciences and Medical Sciences*, 72(suppl_1): S56–62, 2017.



Darren L. Whitfield with Kattari, S.K., Walls, N.E., and Al-Tayyib, A., "Grindr, Scruff, and on the Hunt: Predictors of Condomless Anal Sex, Internet Use, and Mobile Application Use among Men Who Have Sex with Men," *American Journal of Men's Health*, 11(3): 775–84, 2017.

Whitfield with Kattari, S.K., Walls, N.E., and Langenderfer Magruder, L., "Racial and Ethnic Differences in Experiences of Discrimination Accessing Social Services among Transgender/Gender-nonconforming People," *Journal of Ethnic & Cultural Diversity in Social Work*, published online October 27, 2016.

Whitfield with Langenderfer-Magruder, L., Walls, N.E., Kattari, S.K., and Ramos, D., "Stalking Victimization in LGBTQ Adults: A Brief Report," *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, published online March 17, 2017.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Valire Carr Copeland with Conner, K.O., Grote, N.K., and Brown, C., "Stigma: Impact on Mental Health and People of Color"; with Mendez, J., and Hill-Rorie, J., "Perspectives: Racial and Ethnic Minority Scholars Who Teach at Predominantly White Colleges and Universities: Is There a Mental Health Cost?"; with Nguyen, N.N., and Mann, A.R., "Religion and Adolescent Substance Use"; and with Rosenzweig, M.Q., "The End-of-Life Experience for African Americans," in K. Lomotey, P.B. Jackson, M. Adem, P.X. Ruf, V.C. Copeland, A. Huerta, N. Iglesias-Prieto, and D.L. Brown (eds.), *People of Color in the United States: Contemporary Issues in Education, Work, Communities, Health, and Immigration, Vol. 3: Health and Wellness*, Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2016.



Leah A. Jacobs with Katcher, K., Krummenacher, P., and Tonnesen, S., "Root & Rebound: An Innovative Program Paints the Reentry Landscape," in S. Stojkovic (ed.), *Prisoner Reentry: Critical Issues and Policy Directions*, New York, N.Y.: Palgrave Macmillan, 2017.

BOOKS

Valire Carr Copeland with Lomotey, K., Jackson, P.B., Adem, M., Ruf, P.X., Huerta, A., Iglesias-Prieto, N., and Brown, D.L. (eds.), *People of Color in the United States: Contemporary Issues in Education, Work, Communities, Health, and Immigration, Vol. 3: Health and Wellness*, Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2016.

PRESENTATIONS

Jaime Booth with Boddie, S., Poindexter, M., Zuberi, A., Lewis, W., Tharp-Gilliam, S., Stephany, B., Wallace, J.M., and Brown, F., "Moving Youth-led Partnerships Forward in Community-based Participatory Research: Lessons Learned in Asthma Research"; with Lewis, W., Poindexter, M., Boddie, S., Tharp-Gilliam, S., Zuberi, A., Stephany, B., and Brown, F., "The Tales of Our Six Boys: Findings on the Self-esteem and Confidence of 'Our Boys' "; with Ohmer, M., Kolke, D., Teixeira, S., Zuberi, A., Kim, B.K.E., Shapiro, V.B., and Sharpe, T., "Community and Behavioral Health Approaches for Preventing Youth Violence and Improving Well-being"; with Poindexter, M., Boddie, S., Lewis, W., Tharp-Gilliam, S., Zuberi, A., Stephany, B., Wallace, J.M., and Brown, F., "Mobilizing Youth, Partnering with Our Boys: Our Curriculum on Training Youth At-risk Community-based Participatory Research"; with Teixeira, S., Zuberi, A., and Wallace, J.M., "Ghettos, Barrios, and the Impact of Residential Segregation on Racial and Ethnic Differences in Self-rated Health"; with Urbaeva, J., and Wei, K., "Parenting Practices and Adolescent Alcohol Use in Native American Reservations"; with Wallace, J.M., Boddie, S., Tharp-Gilliam, S., Zuberi, A., Poindexter, M., Stephany, B., Lewis, W., and Brown, F., "Conceptualizing the Problem: The Social, Educational and Environmental Risk Factors Placing Youth At-risk in Homewood"; with Wei, K., and Fusco, R.A., "How Does Latino Threat Narrative Affect Negative Emotions and Perceived Threat towards Latino Immigrants? A Call for Stigma-focused Interventions"; with Wei, K., and Jacobson, D.A., "Leveraging Big Data for Social Good: Examining Moral Values in Immigration Discussions in News Media"; and with Wei, K., and Little, A., "Examining the Impact of Community Food Environment on Obesity Prevalence in Appalachia from an Ecological Perspective," Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) 21st Annual Conference, New Orleans, La., January 2017.

Gerald Cochran, "Patterns of Prescription Opioid Misuse among Rural Community Pharmacy Patients: Implications for Practice and Future Research" and "Claims-based Patterns of Opioid Medication Consumption and Overdose within a Large Medicaid Program," Association for Medical Education and Research in Substance Abuse 40th National Conference, Washington, D.C., November 2016.

Cochran, "Pharmacy Indicators for Opioid Misuse," Enhancing the Recovery-oriented Systems of Care in Pennsylvania: Helping Individuals with Substance Use Disorders and Their Families, Harrisburg, Pa., May 2017.

Cochran with Gordon, A., Gellad, W., Chang, C.H., Lo-Ciganic, J., Lobo, C., Cole, E., Frazier, W., Zheng, P., Kelley, D., and Donohue, J., "The Influence of Prior Authorization Policies on Opioid Medication Abuse and Overdose among Members of a Large Medicaid Program," College on Problems of Drug Dependence 79th Annual Program Meeting, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, June 2017.

Valire Carr Copeland with McPherson, T., Adam, C., Walters, A., Mayeda, S.D., and Resko, S., "Integrating Adolescent SBIRT Throughout Social Work and Nursing Education," Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) 62nd Annual Program Meeting, Atlanta, Ga., November 2016.

Larry E. Davis, "Engaging Our Communities in a Dialogue and Action on Racial Justice," Louisiana State University School of Social Work, Baton Rouge, La., April 2017.

Davis, "Promoting Success in a Diversifying Nation: Working with Those Who Differ," Ohio State University College of Social Work, Columbus, Ohio, May 2017.

Davis, "Racism in America: A Call to Action for Social Work Researchers," University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work, Chapel Hill, N.C., May 2017.

Davis, "Rising Inequality: The Problem of the 21st Century," Adelphi University School of Social Work, Garden City, N.Y., May 2017.

Shaun Eack, "Impact of Antipsychotic Medication Dose and Adherence on Improvement during Cognitive Remediation in Early Course Schizophrenia," Annual Meeting of the American Society of Clinical Psychopharmacology, Miami Beach, Fla., May 2017.

Continued on page 18

Continued from page 17

Christina E. Newhill, "Improving the Understanding and Treatment of Violent Behavior in Individuals with Mental Illness: Evolution of a Research Agenda," Confronting Dangerous Behavior among Individuals with Mental Illness, University of California, Berkeley, School of Social Welfare, October 2016.

Newhill with Yuan, Y., "A Systematic Review of the Role of Trauma in the Development of Borderline Personality Disorder," North American Society for the Study of Personality Disorders Annual Conference, New York, N.Y., April 2017.

Newhill with Yuan, Y., "A Systematic Review of the Role of Trauma in the Development of Borderline Personality Disorder," SSWR 21st Annual Conference, New Orleans, La., January 2017.

Mary L. Ohmer with Ivery, J., and Allegra, S., "Preparing Community Practitioners to Collaborate with Communities to Address Global Issues," CSWE 62nd Annual Program Meeting, Atlanta, Ga., November 2016.

Ohmer, "Neighborhood Change and Equitable Development: Perspectives from Community Change Makers"; with Kolke, D., Teixeira, S., Booth, J., Zuberi, A., Kim, B.K.E., Shapiro, V.B., and Sharpe, T., "Community and Behavioral Health Approaches for Preventing Youth Violence and Improving Well-being"; and with Krings, A., Sprague Martinez, L., and Thurber, A., "The Role of Social Work in Advancing Equitable Development," SSWR 21st Annual Conference, New Orleans, La., January 2017.



Marlo Perry with Chisholm, B., and Kinsler, B., " 'It Turned Out Better than I Thought': Engaging Reluctant Families When Conferencing Becomes Part of the Practice Model," 20th National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect, Washington, D.C., September 2016.

Perry with Little, A., "A Systematic Review of Weight Bias in the Human Services Professions," SSWR 21st Annual Conference, New Orleans, La., January 2017.

Perry with Lundgren, P.J., and England, S., "Setting the Foundation for Continuous Quality Improvement: A Multifaceted Approach to Curriculum Evaluation," National Staff Development and Training Association Professional Development Conference, New Brunswick, N.J., October 2016.

Perry with Rauktis, M.B., "How Engaged Are Families in Various Family Engagement Models? Fidelity and Early Findings from Pennsylvania's Title IV-E Waiver," International Conference on Innovations in Family Engagement, Fort Worth, Texas, November 2016.

Perry with Starr, L.M., "A Systematic Review of Parent-Child Interaction Therapy within the Child Welfare System," Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors (BPD) Annual Conference, New Orleans, La., March 2017.

Perry with Utz, C., and Kinsler, B.D., "Family Engagement in Pennsylvania's IV-E Waiver: Successes and Challenges in Early Implementation and Fidelity," Annual Waiver Demonstration Projects Meeting, Washington, D.C., August 2016.

Daniel Rosen with Engel, R.J., McCall, J.D., Berrios-Thomas, S., and Primack, B., "Increasing Adherence and Self-care Knowledge: Implementing a Telecoaching Protocol with Medicaid/Medicare Recipients with Congestive Heart Failure" and with McCall, J.D., and Engel, R.J., "Problem Solving Therapy for Depressed Older Adult Methadone Clients: A Randomized Controlled Trial," SSWR 21st Annual Conference, New Orleans, La., January 2017.

Fengyan Tang, "Gender Differences in Relationship between Employment and Life Satisfaction," "Employment and Life Satisfaction among Migrant Older Adults," and "Social Participation and Late-life Well-being: Rural and Urban Differences" and with Jang, H., and Rauktis, M., "The Effects of Social Relations on Changes in Psychological Well-being among Grandparent Caregivers," Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, New Orleans, La., November 2016.

Darren L. Whitfield with Argüello, T., and Gerke, D., "Social Work and HIV: Advances in an Integrated Field" and with Walls, N.E., and Langenderfer-Magruder, L., "Differential Risk of Housing and Employment Discrimination in the LGBTQ Community," CSWE 62nd Annual Program Meeting, Atlanta, Ga., November 2016.

Whitfield with Jacobson, D., "The Complexities of Identity: The Role of Internalized Stigma in Risky Sexual Behavior among Black Gay Men," National LGBTQ Health Conference, Chicago, Ill., April 2017.

Whitfield with Kattari, S.K., Langenderfer-Magruder, L., and Walls, N.E., "Tangled Web of Oppression: Intersectional Predictors of Harassment among Cisgender Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Queer Adults," SSWR 21st Annual Conference, New Orleans, La., January 2017.

WEBINARS

Valire Carr Copeland with Adam, C., Bediako, A., Mayeda, S., McPherson, T., and Resko, S., "Integrating Adolescent SBIRT Throughout Social Work and Nursing Education," retrieved from go.kognito.com/sbirtwebinar2017.html, December 2016.

Christina Newhill, "Client Violence and Practitioner Safety," invited interagency webinar presentation sponsored by Austin Travis County Integral Care, Austin, Texas, July 2016.

Newhill, "Violence in Social Work Practice," invited continuing education webinar presentation sponsored by the Wisconsin Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers, February 2017.

OP-EDS

Larry E. Davis, "We Have Failed American Workers—That Is Why Trump Won," *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, March 12, 2017.

Davis, "Whose Country Is It, Anyway?" *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, October 6, 2016.

GRANTS

Jaime Booth received a grant for "Neighborhood Risk and Protection for Substance Use among Low-Income Adolescents (K01)" from the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

Booth received a grant for "Exploring the Role of Ethnic Identity in Latino Youths' Experience of Acculturation Stress and Its Health Outcomes in an Emerging Latino Community" from the Center on Race and Social Problems.

Gerald Cochran is the principal investigator on the Opioid Epidemic: Practice and Policy Efforts, funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse for 2017–19. The purpose of the project is to develop, assess, and demonstrate feasibility/acceptability of a community pharmacy-based intervention for opioid medication misuse.

Valire Carr Copeland is the principal investigator on Gender, Disability, and Religion: An Interprofessional Training Workshop, which received Year of Diversity funding from the University of Pittsburgh Office of the Provost in spring 2017.

Mary Ohmer and Booth are the coprincipal investigators on Barriers to Fair Housing Choice in the City of Pittsburgh: A Qualitative Study, funded by the Pittsburgh Commission on Human Relations from April 1, 2017, to March 31, 2018.

Ohmer, Booth, and Rosta Farzan are the coprincipal investigators on We Are Strong! Leveraging Information Technology to Empower Marginalized Communities, funded by the University of Pittsburgh Office of the Vice Provost for Research's Integrative Social Science Research Initiative from March 1, 2017, to May 31, 2018.

Ohmer was the principal investigator for the Hewlett International Grant Program, funded by the University of Pittsburgh University Center for International Studies for international research in Ghana in spring 2016.

HONORS/AWARDS

Gerald Cochran received the 2017 New Investigator/Educator Award from the Association for Medical Education and Research in Substance Abuse.

Larry E. Davis received the 2017 Richard Lodge Prize from Adelphi University School of Social Work.

Davis received the 2016 National Distinguished Social Work Leadership Award from the Touro College Graduate School of Social Work.

Davis received the 2016 Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Significant Lifetime Achievement in Social Work Education Award at the CSWE Annual Program Meeting in Atlanta, Ga.



Pictured from left to right are Gerald Cochran, James Huguley, Mary Ohmer, and Lovie Jackson Foster.



Helen Petracchi has been named a CSWE scholar for 2017. This honor is based on Petracchi's extensive experience with social work education research and comes with a $5,000 award. She will be working with CSWE's Joint Research Task Force, composed of members of the Commissions on Research, Educational Policy, and Accreditation, and will focus on best practices in field education and the connection they have with social work accreditation standards. Petracchi also was recently appointed to the CSWE Commission on Accreditation, where she joins other social work educators from across the country in the critically important function of maintaining and advocating for quality social work education through accreditation/candidacy of more than 760 social work programs in the United States.



Mary E. Rauktis received a fall 2017 Core Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program grant to teach and conduct research at the University of Porto in Portugal.

Rauktis will receive the inaugural Florence Stier Research Development Award for her research proposal, "Animal Ownership in Food-insecure Households: Is There a Relationship between Human and Animal Food Insecurity?" The Florence Stier Research Development Award is an endowment that has been provided to the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work to support faculty research and development with a two-year $15,000 research award.

Rauktis was coeditor of a special issue of the *Journal of Emotional and Behavior Disorders* published in March 2017.

PUBLICATIONS

Kess Ballentine with Farmer, E.M.Z., Murray, M.L., Rauktis, M.E., and Burns, B.J., "Would We Know It If We Saw It? Assessing Quality of Care in Group Homes for Youth," *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders*, 25(1): 28–36, 2017.

Rachel Goode with Mendez, D.D., Gary-Webb, T.L., Zheng, Y., Imes, C.C., Fabio, A., Duell, J., and Burke, L.E., "Neighborhood Factors and Six-month Weight Change among Overweight Individuals in a Weight Loss Intervention," *Preventive Medicine Reports*, 4: 569–73, 2016.

Goode with Styn, M.A., Mendez, D.D., and Gary-Webb, T.L., "African Americans in Standard Behavioral Treatment for Obesity, 2001–2015: What Have We Learned?" *Western Journal of Nursing Research*, 39(8): 1045–69, 2017.

Goode with Zheng, Y., Sereika, S.M., Danford, C.A., Imes, C.C., Mancino, J., and Burke, L.E., "Trajectories of Weight Change and Predictors over 18-month Weight Loss Treatment," *Journal of Nursing Scholarship*, 49(2): 177–84, 2017.

Goode with Zheng, Y., Terry, M.A., Danford, C.A., Ewing, L.J., Sereika, S.M., Mori, A., and Burke, L.E., "Experiences of Daily Weighing among Successful Weight Loss Individuals during a 12-Month Weight Loss Program," *Western Journal of Nursing Research*, published online December 14, 2016.

Valerie Hruschak with Cochran, G., DeFosse, B., and Hohmeier, K.C., "Prescription Opioid Abuse: Pharmacists' Perspective and Response," *Integrated Pharmacy Research and Practice*, 5: 65–73, 2016.

Hruschak with Cochran, G.T., Engel, R.J., and Tarter, R.E., "Prescription Opioid Misuse among Rural Community Pharmacy Patients: Pilot Study for Screening and Implications for Future Practice and Research," *Journal of Pharmacy Practice*, published online July 8, 2016.

Eric Kyere, "Making the Unequal Metropolis: School Desegregation and Its Limits," *Journal of Children and Poverty*, 22(2): 152–3, 2016.

Kyere with Conahan, J., "Community Readiness: Can the Human Services Delivery System Meet the Needs of Human Trafficking Victims," *The International Journal of Interdisciplinary Social and Community Studies*, 10(3): 1–17, 2015.

Kyere with Joseph, A., and Wei, K., "An Alternative to Zero Tolerance Discipline Practices in Schools: A Multisystemic Intervention from a Social Work Perspective," *Journal of Cultural & Ethnic Diversity in Social Work*, in press.

Kyere with Taylor, J., and King, E., "A Gardening Metaphor: A Framework for Closing Racial Achievement Gaps in America," *Urban Education*, in press.

Allison Dare Little, "Invisible Nation: Homeless Families in America," *Journal of Children and Poverty*, 23(1): 119–20, 2017.

Kai Wei with Booth, J., "The Association between Neighborhood Factors and Mexican Americans' Mental Health Outcomes: A Systematic Review," *Journal of Sociology & Social Welfare*, in press.

Wei with Chung, W., Lin, Y., and Wen, X., "The Dynamics of Group Risk Perception in the US After Paris Attacks," in E. Spiro and Y. Ahn (eds.), *Social Informatics 8th International Conference, SocInfo 2016, Bellevue, WA, USA, November 11–14, 2016, Proceedings, Part 1*, New York, N.Y.: Springer International Publishing AG, 2016.

Jessica A. Wojtalik with Eack, S.M., Keshavan, M.S., and Minshew, N.J., "Social-cognitive Brain Function and Connectivity during Visual Perspective-taking in Autism and Schizophrenia," *Schizophrenia Bulletin*, in press.

Wojtalik with Eack, S.M., Smith, M.J., and Keshavan, M.S., "A Systematic and Meta-analytic Review of Neural Correlates of Functional Outcome in Schizophrenia," *Schizophrenia Research*, in press.

Thomas Ylioja with Cochran, G., Bacci, J.L., Hruschak, V., Miller, S., Seybert, A.L., and Tarter, R., "Prescription Opioid Use: Patient Characteristics and Misuse in Community Pharmacy," *Journal of the American Pharmacists Association*, 56(3): 248–56, 2016.

Ylioja with Cochran, G., Chang, Y., Tindle, H.A., and Rigotti, N.A., "Post-discharge Smoking Cessation in Subgroups of Hospitalized Smokers: A Latent Class Analysis," *Substance Abuse*, in press.

Ylioja with Cochran, G., Woodford, M.R., and Renn, K.A., "Frequent Experience of LGBQ Microaggression on Campus Associated with Smoking among Sexual Minority College Students," *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*, published online December 16, 2016.

Ylioja with Lee, J.G.L., and Lackey, M., "Identifying Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Search Terminology: A Systematic Review of Health Systematic Reviews," *PLOS ONE*, 11(5): e0156210, 2016.

Ylioja with Rigotti, N.A., Tindle, H.A., Regan, S., Levy, D.E., Chang, Y., Carpenter, K.M., Park, E.R., Kelley, J.H.R., Streck, J.M., Reid, Z.Z., Reyen, M., and Singer, D.E., "A Post-discharge Smoking-cessation Intervention for Hospital Patients: Helping Hand 2 Randomized Clinical Trial," *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 51(4): 597–608, 2016.

Ylioja with Tindle, H.A., Daigh, R., Reddy, V.K., Bailey, L.A., Ochs, J.A., Maness, M.H., Davis, E.M., Schulze, A.E., Powers, K.M., Baca, H.B., Mast, J.L., and Freiburg, M.S., "eReferral between Hospitals and Quitlines: An Emerging Tobacco Control Strategy," *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 51(4): 522–6, 2016.

PRESENTATIONS

Valerie Hruschak, "Integrated Psychosocial Interventions for Chronic Pain and Comorbid Psychiatric and Substance Use Disorders" and "Psychosocial Predictors in the Transition from Acute to Chronic Pain: A Systematic Review," International Association for the Study of Pain 16th World Congress on Pain, Yokohama, Japan, September 2016.

Hruschak with Cochran, G., and Wasan, A., "Psychosocial Interventions for Chronic Pain and Comorbid Opioid

Misuse," Association for Medical Education and Research in Substance Abuse 40th Annual National Conference, Washington, D.C., November 2016.

James A. Kmett with Eack, S.M., "Forced Sexual Incidents among Individuals with Serious Mental Illness (SMI)," Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) 21st Annual Conference, New Orleans, La., January 2017.

Eric Kyere, "Constructing and Legitimizing Achievement in African American Children in American School Systems: Racial Socialization and the Social Work Profession," Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) 62nd Annual Program Meeting, Atlanta, Ga., November 2016.

Kyere, "Testing the Degree to Which Family SES and Home Literacy Environment Mediate the Effect of Race on Children's Reading Achievement" and with Huguley, J., and Wang, M., "Racial Differences in Parents' Grade Requirements and Students' Achievement," SSWR 21st Annual Conference, New Orleans, La., January 2017.

Kyere with Conahan, J., "Community Readiness: Responding to the Needs of Human Trafficking Victims," National Association of Social Workers National Conference, Washington, D.C., June 2016.

Kyere with Huguley, J.P., "School Culture Interventions That Support Racial Justice in School Discipline," Center for Urban Education, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pa., February 2016.

Kyere with Huguley, J.P., and Wang, M., "Racial Differences in the Prevalence and Effects of Parents' Academic Performance Expectations on Later School Success," Society for Research on Adolescence Biennial Meeting, Baltimore, Md., March/April 2016.

Kyere with Kmett, J.A., Hyukseung, L., and Heejung, J., "Review of Teaching Methods and Suggestions for Training Future Social Work Educators," CSWE 61st Annual Program Meeting, Denver, Colo., October 2015.

Allison Little, "Attitudes Toward, and Beliefs About, Obesity in a Sample of First-year MSW Students"; with Booth, J., and Wei, K., "Examining the Impact of Community Food Environment on Obesity Prevalence in Appalachia from an Ecological Perspective"; and with Perry, M., "A Systematic Review of Weight Bias in the Human Services Professions," SSWR 21st Annual Conference, New Orleans, La., January 2017.

Kai Wei with Booth, J., and Jacobson, D.A., "Leveraging Big Data for Social Good: Examining Moral Values in Immigration Discussions in News Media"; with Booth, J., and Little, A., "Examining the Impact of Community Food Environment on Obesity Prevalence in Appalachia from an Ecological Perspective"; with Fusco, R.A., and Booth, J., "How Does Latino Threat Narrative Affect Negative Emotions and Perceived Threat towards Latino Immigrants? A Call for Stigma-focused Interventions"; and with Urbaeva, J., and Booth, J., "Parenting Practices and Adolescent Alcohol Use in Native American Reservations," SSWR 21st Annual Conference, New Orleans, La., January 2017.

Jessica Wojtalik, "Differential Adherence to Antipsychotic Medication Impacts Clinical and Functional Outcomes in Antipsychotic-naive First-episode Psychosis Patients: A Longitudinal Study," American Society of Clinical Psychopharmacology Annual Meeting, Miami Beach, Fla., May/June 2017.

Wojtalik with Blajeski, S., DeVylder, J.E., Eack, S.M., Lukens, E., Mendon, S.J., and Oh, H.Y., "Preventing Severe Mental Illness: A Grand Challenge" and with Eack, S.M., "Cognitive Enhancement Therapy Improves Quality of Life among Individuals with Schizophrenia Who Misuse Alcohol and Cannabis," SSWR 21st Annual Conference, New Orleans, La., January 2017.

Wojtalik with Keshavan, M., and Eack, S., "Ten-year Durability Effects of Cognitive Enhancement Therapy in Early Course Schizophrenia," 16th International Congress on Schizophrenia Research, San Diego, Calif., March 2017.

Yan Yuan with Newhill, C.E., "A Systematic Review of the Role of Trauma in the Development of Borderline Personality Disorder," North American Society for the Study of Personality Disorders Annual Conference, New York, N.Y., April 2017.

Yuan with Newhill, C.E., "A Systematic Review of the Role of Trauma in the Development of Borderline Personality Disorder," SSWR 21st Annual Conference, New Orleans, La., January 2017.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Kai Wei served as cochair, ECPN Session II: How Do You Use Social Media in Prevention Research? at the Society for Prevention Research 25th Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., in May/June 2017.

HONORS/AWARDS

Valerie Hruschak was a finalist for the 2017 Pain Research Challenge through the Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) at the University of Pittsburgh. Awards are funded by the Virginia Kaufman Endowment Fund and CTSI.

Jessica Wojtalik was presented with a New Investigator Award at the American Society of Clinical Psychopharmacology 2017 Annual Meeting, held May 29–June 2 in Miami Beach, Fla. ■



Social work students volunteer regularly at local food banks.

The Center on Race and Social Problems Celebrates 15 Years

The University of Pittsburgh Center on Race and Social Problems (CRSP) hosted a reception on September 12 that celebrated its 15th anniversary. Many friends and supporters, including Chancellor Patrick Gallagher, Chancellor Emeritus Mark Nordenberg, Provost Emeritus James Maher, and law firm and foundation partners, as well as many other friends, were in attendance.

2002–2007

In 2002, CRSP was founded in partnership with the generous support of then Provost James Maher and the University of Pittsburgh. By 2007, the center had a full staff, with Larry E. Davis as director, an associate director, an administrative assistant, and three postdoctoral fellows. Through the generous support of two Pittsburgh law firms, Reed Smith LLP and Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC, the center was able to begin offering two of the most popular lecture series at the University, the CRSP Fall and Spring lecture series, which highlight race scholars, community leaders, and award-winning writers and attracts some of the most diverse audiences seen at Pitt.

During its first five years of operation, the center established its seven core areas of focus: economic disparities; educational disparities; mental health; interracial group relations; families, youth, and the elderly; health; and criminal justice.

In its first five years, CRSP funded 29 pilot studies and completed 19 externally funded projects. It hosted 22 Summer Institutes that delivered relevant and practical research into the hands of policymakers.

2007–2012



In association with Springer International Publishing AG, the center began publishing the journal *Race and Social Problems* in 2009. The journal has become tremendously successful, and in 2016, it was ranked in the 92nd percentile of anthropology journals.

In 2010, the center hosted the national conference Race In America: Restructuring Inequality, which featured the most solution-focused dialogue on race ever held. During 2012, the center began its community partnership with the Homewood Children's Village in Homewood, a predominantly Black neighborhood in Pittsburgh. Each year, CRSP supports



Julian Bond

up to eight fellows who work one on one with children who struggle with social, emotional, and family issues that adversely affect their ability to function in school. The fellows are able to provide these children with resources, coping strategies, and practical help.

2012–2017

During the summer of 2017, CRSP offered three Summer Institutes. The annual Race and Child Welfare Summer Institute was held June 7 and 8 to a sellout audience of child welfare professionals from across the country. This year, the topic was national and local perspectives on the intersections



Homewood Children's Village

among immigrants, human trafficking, and social services. Featured speakers included Pittsburgh City Councilman Dan Gilman and Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, who both spoke about Pittsburgh's commitment to immigrants and refugees as a matter of principle and policy. Yolanda Padilla from the University of Texas at Austin and Rowena Fong were keynote speakers on days one and two. Diego Chaves-Gnecco described his experiences in setting up a medical/social work clinic for immigrant children at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC, and Dawn Brubaker of Jewish Family & Children's Service of Pittsburgh conducted a workshop on understanding immigrant cultures.

The Policy and Community Summer Institute also attracted a full-capacity crowd of law enforcement professionals and featured City of Pittsburgh Bureau of Police Chief Scott E. Schubert; acting United States Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania Soo C. Song; and University of Pittsburgh law professor David A. Harris, who also hosts local 90.5 WESA's *Criminal (In)justice* podcast. Presentations and workshops on recognizing and avoiding bias were provided by the Pittsburgh Police academy training team.



The segregation Summer Institute focused on national and local perspectives on residential segregation and its related issues: education, health, and the law. Jacob Rugh of Brigham Young University, and Claudia Colton of Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences at Case Western Reserve University provided the keynote addresses. A diverse audience attended a variety of panels and workshops offered throughout each day.

This fall, CRSP welcomed the new cohort of Homewood Children's Village fellows—Tulleesha Burbage (MSW), Abbey Hall (MSW), Aisha Pier (MSW), Felicia Campbell (MSW), Lora Kay (MSW), Belen Montanez (MSW), and Rachael Popcak (MSW). We wish them well in their important work.

We also congratulate the winners of the Annual CRSP student paper awards. The undergraduate prize went to Devin Rutan (MSW/JD) for a paper titled "Food Oases: A Case Study of East Liberty" and written for a course taught by Waverly Duck. The master's prize went to student Allison Hall, whose paper, "The Language of Osama bin Laden: How Language Is Used as a Proxy for Race in Discrimination Against Arabic Speakers in the United States" was written for a course taught by Jasmine Gonzales Rose. The doctoral-level prize was awarded to Kess Ballentine for his paper, "A Theoretical Analysis of Oppositional Defiance Disorder and Attention-Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder by Race," written for a course taught by John Wallace of the School of Social Work. Congratulations, students and faculty!

We look forward to another term of intellectual food for thought at the CRSP fall speaker series. See the outside back cover of this issue of *Bridges* for a complete list of speakers.

When the center began operating, many people questioned the need for a center devoted to race-related issues, falsely believing that we had become a postracial society. The presidential election of 2016 and the subsequent recent events clearly show that the work of the center is needed now more than ever. During 2016, we held a memorial reception and panel discussion honoring the late civil rights leader Julian Bond, who said in a speech he made at the center in 2010:

"The truth is that Jim Crow may be dead, but racism is alive and well. That is the central fact of life for every non-White American, including the president of the United States, eclipsing income, position, and education. Race trumps them all."

THE FUTURE

In some respects, it seems that race relations in our country have gotten worse. Yet, if we take a broader, more historical perspective, there clearly has been significant progress. However, what many of us have come to realize is that the problems of racism were greater than we had thought. Those of us who are at the forefront of this struggle must refuse to be demoralized. It is true that racism is still very much in the fabric of our society, but we at CRSP believe that the arc of justice is on our side.

The center is committed to sustaining its focus and efforts. We do sincerely appreciate the support we receive from so many of you, and we promise to continue to do our part to help make America a more just and equitable society. ■

A Message from the Office of Development



As you may now know, the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work is celebrating its 100th anniversary this academic year. Our centennial celebration is truly remarkable when you reflect back on the significance and impact of our school and of our graduates. We are so fortunate that you are a part of our history!

But we need your help.

E-mail me at **tony.gacek@ia.pitt.edu** to share your Pitt Social Work story with us. We're collecting testimonies, reflections, and pictures of your time at Pitt and what social work means to you. By sharing your thoughts and images, you can help us to put together the tapestry of 100 years of Pitt Social Work and set a course for our future.

We know that you have great memories from your time at Pitt, and we are sincere when we say we want to hear them. Please take 10 minutes out of your schedule to share with us what Pitt Social Work means to you. Then take a few more to dig back through your old photos—we know you have them! Nothing tells our story better than the personal feedback and pictures from you. We'll be sharing alumni responses throughout the centennial celebration, and we can't wait to see what you have to share.

And as for the pictures, well, we hope you were having a good hair day!

In celebration,



Tony Gacek
Director of Development
412-624-8604
tony.gacek@ia.pitt.edu

COSA Alumni Receive Major Awards

Two Community, Organization, and Social Action (COSA) alumni from the School of Social Work received major awards over the summer for their outstanding work. The School of Social Work congratulates them on their well-deserved honors.



David Coplan (BASW '91, MSW '93) received the Human Services Management Exemplar Award for "excellence in human service organization leadership and management" from the Network for Social Work Management. This international organization seeks to advance social work management competencies, and the Exemplar Award recognizes a human service leader whose work reflects and advances those competencies. Coplan was nominated by his friend, colleague, and mentor at the school, Tracy Soska. In addition to practicing excellence in social work management, Coplan also teaches an MSW course in social administration that he developed at the school that embodies the network's human services management competencies. Coplan was recognized for his leadership and management of the Human Services Center Corporation, which also has received awards for excellence as a nonprofit organization, including the Forbes Funds' Wishart Award for Nonprofit Excellence. Coplan received his Exemplar Award at the Network for Social Work Management's Annual Management Conference on June 15, 2017, in New York, N.Y., at Fordham University. In July 2017, Coplan was featured on the Network of Social Work Management's Monday Morning Manager weekly blog. You can learn more at **socialworkmanager.org**.



Carl Redwood Jr. (MSW '87) was the recipient of the Thomas Merton Center's NewPerson Award for 2017 for his outstanding community, labor, and progressive organizing in the region. The Thomas Merton Center is a leading catalyst for social and environmental justice in the region. Redwood was feted at a dinner celebration on June 26, 2017, at the jam-packed National Association of Letter Carriers Branch 84 hall on Pittsburgh's North Side. For many years, Redwood taught community organizing at the School of Social Work. His award recognized his work as a community organizer codirecting the Hill District Consensus Group and leading the One Hill Coalition to secure a community benefits agreement with the Pittsburgh Penguins around their development in the lower Hill and for his tireless work for affordable housing, racial and economic justice, and labor/community coalition building, including adjunct and faculty organizing at Pitt and in the city. Redwood presented a stirring acceptance speech on the need for a new progressive political party in our city and the current effort to establish it. Redwood will be a featured speaker this fall in the School of Social Work Speaker Series.

IN MEMORIAM



Eileen Carlins (BASW '00, MSW '01) passed away on March 24, 2017, after a long illness.

Following her graduation from the MSW program at the School of Social Work, Carlins joined Sudden Infant Death Syndrome of Pennsylvania as its director of support and education. There she developed a safe sleep curriculum that she taught to nursing students, childcare providers, hospital and health department employees, and other members of the community, and she was part of the organization's effort to create Cribs for Kids, Inc., a program aimed at providing educational resources on safe sleep and cribs to mothers who could not otherwise afford them. She also developed the Healing Hearts Infant Bereavement Resources program, which provides support to families who have suffered the loss of an infant.

Carlins was a field instructor for the School of Social Work and served as president of the School of Social Work Alumni Society from 2014 to 2017. ■

Stay Connected to the School of Social Work!

Pitt Career Network

Register to serve as a mentor to a current student or to network with fellow alumni.

The Pitt Career Network is an online networking service for Pitt alumni and students that provides the opportunity to discuss careers and job prospects, learn about your field in new places, have a positive impact on someone's future, and make valuable connections with other alumni.

For more information and to sign up, visit **alumni.pitt.edu/alumni/resources/career-resources**.

We Are Looking for You!



The School of Social Work is seeking alumni who might be interested in becoming field instructors for our students.

BASW and MSW interns provide more than 300,000 hours of service to agencies and organizations like yours every year. Being a mentor is a very rewarding experience and gives you a hand in educating and preparing the next generation of social workers for service.

If you are interested in becoming a field instructor, please visit **socialwork.pitt.edu/academic-programs/field-education** for more information.

Keep Us Updated!

PITT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Have you become a member of the Pitt Alumni Association's online community?

This online service exists to help alumni connect with each other and with the University. Here you can locate and reach out to other Pitt alumni. If you have been out of touch with your alma mater, you can update your contact information to begin receiving Pitt news and other materials.

Check out the Pitt Alumni Association online community at **alumni.pitt.edu/alumni/resources/alumni-resources**.

Did You Know?

The VanKirk Career Center is open to alumni as well as students from the School of Social Work.

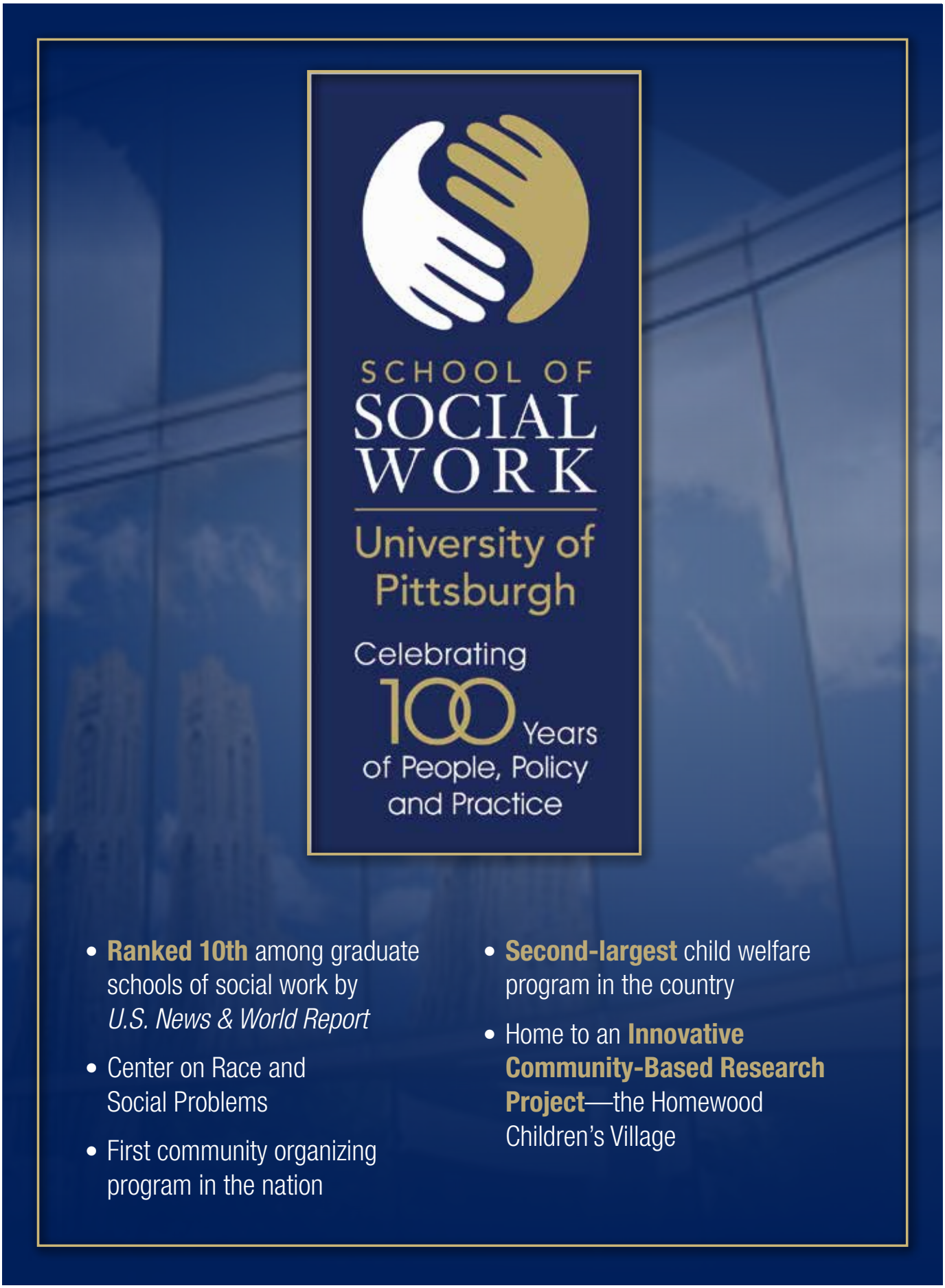
Our specialization in social work careers will provide you with the information and connections necessary to empower people, lead organizations, and grow communities. The VanKirk center hosts student and alumni networking events and career development workshops throughout the year. Our free job posting service provides employers with a direct connection to the region's top talent.

Visit **socialwork.pitt.edu/student-resources/career-services.php** for full details on upcoming events or to schedule an appointment.

FIND US ONLINE!

Find us on **Facebook** by searching for PittSSW.

Follow us on **Twitter**: @PittSocialwork


SCHOOL OF
SOCIAL
WORK
University of
Pittsburgh
Celebrating
100
Years
of People, Policy
and Practice
• Ranked 10th among graduate schools of social work by U.S. News & World Report
• Center on Race and Social Problems
• First community organizing program in the nation
• Second-largest child welfare program in the country
• Home to an Innovative Community-Based Research Project—the Homewood Children's Village

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
University of Pittsburgh
Celebrating 100 Years of People, Policy and Practice



1918

Inaugural year of the Division of Social Work



1919

First social work accreditation from the newly established Association of Training Schools for Professional Social Workers, later the American Association of Schools of Social Work (AASSW)



1926

Program moves to Department of Sociology

(Manuel Conrad Elmer)



1933

Dr. Marion Hathway joins the faculty



1938

Social Work becomes Pitt's 18th separate school, and is accredited by the AASSW retroactively to 1934

1940

The Buhl Foundation's grant of $150,000 (equivalent to approximately $2.63 million in 2017) helps transform the School



1945

Doctoral Program founded

1950- 1951

Senator Joseph R. McCarthy attacks Dr. Marion Hathway



1958

The School creates a two-year concentration in community organization



1962-1963

William McCullough becomes Dean

1967

Joint Master of Social Work/ Master of Divinity, established with the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, is the first joint program in the School





1972

David E. Epperson becomes Dean



(Dean Epperson with Ann Jones, first BASW Program Director)

1973-1974

BASW Program founded



1995

Child Welfare Education and Research Programs created

(Professor Ed Sites with two of the program's first graduates)

2001

Larry E. Davis becomes Dean of the School





2002

Center for Race and Social Problems founded

2016

U.S. News & World Report ranks the University of Pittsburgh number 10 among the 245 social work graduate programs in the country



2017

Child Welfare, Child Abuse and Neglect training reaches one million users

University of Pittsburgh

School of Social Work
2117 Cathedral of Learning
4200 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15260

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PITTSBURGH, PA
PERMIT NO. 511

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
SCHOOL OF
Social Work

Empower People
Lead Organizations
Grow Communities

All lectures are from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the School of Social Work Conference Center, 2017 Cathedral of Learning.

Lunch will be provided; registration is not required. For more information, visit **socialwork.pitt.edu** or call 412-624-6304.

CENTER ON RACE AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS
BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC FALL 2017 SPEAKER SERIES



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26
"Toxic Inequality"
TOM SHAPIRO, Pokross Professor of Law and Social Policy and Director, Institute on Assets and Social Policy, Brandeis University



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25
"Parental Human Capital, Low-skilled Jobs, and Racial Disparities in Child Poverty in Immigrant Families"
KEVIN THOMAS, Associate Professor of Sociology, Demography, and African Studies, Pennsylvania State University



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2
"Navigating School Inequality: How Parents Pursue Magnet School Admissions"
LITTISHA BATES, Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Cincinnati



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7
"Race and Family Dynamics"
KAREN GUZZO, Associate Professor of Sociology, Bowling Green State University

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK 2017–18 SPEAKER SERIES



SEPTEMBER 18, 2017
"Place-based Engagement: The University of Pittsburgh's Engagement Centers"
LINA D. DOSTILIO, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Community Engagement Centers, University of Pittsburgh



OCTOBER 30, 2017
"Another World Is Possible! A Radical Political Agenda for Social Work"
CARL REDWOOD JR., Vice Chair, Board of Directors, Hill District Consensus Group



FEBRUARY 13, 2018
Raymond R. Webb Jr. Lecture
"Social Innovation and Social Work: Buzzword or Field Change?"
STEPHANIE BERZIN, Associate Professor, Children, Youth, and Families; Assistant Dean, Doctoral Program; and Codirector, Center for Social Innovation, School of Social Work, Boston College



MARCH 20, 2018
WORLD SOCIAL WORK DAY Sidney A. Teller Lecture
"The New Global Inequities: Trends and Challenges for Today's Agents of Social Change"
JULIA WATKINS, Former Executive Director, Council on Social Work Education