

PITT SOCIAL WORK

A weekly update of news from the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work

MAY 26, 2020

CiTECH gives out Practice Innovation Awards



The Center for Interventions to Enhance Community Health (CiTECH) announced this year's CiTECH Practice Innovation Awards with the awarding of over \$100,000 in funding for 4 practice innovation projects. These projects represent true community-academic partnerships that aim to improve community behavioral health services and outcomes across diverse populations and settings. [Read more about the projects](#)

[here.](#)

MSW alumna helping seniors fight economic insecurity



MSW alumna Jamila Blake works with the Maryland Consumer Rights Coalition to offer financial counseling and coaching to help improve the economic well being of older adults, including finding solutions to fill the gaps in the services offered to them. [Read more.](#)

BASW alumnus pens op-ed for Public Source



BASW alumnus Brandon Thomas advocates for reform of how healthcare workers treat people with substance use and mental health disorders. [Read more.](#)

MSW alumna named new CYS administrator



MSW alumna Anne Schlegel has been hired as the new Washington County Children and Youth Services Administrator. [Read more.](#)

CRSP speaker addresses COVID-19 racial disparities



Thomas LaVeist, dean and chair of Health Equity at the Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, spoke on "Lessons from New Orleans: Race, Health and COVID-19" on May 6 in the first CRSPCast from Pitt's Center for Race and Social Problems. [Read more in the *University Times*.](#)

MSW alumna named to national council



MSW alumna Leigh Anne McKelvey, Executive Director of CASA Youth Advocates, Inc. will now serve on the Suburban Leadership Council of the National Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)/Guardian ad Litem (GAL) Association for Children. [Read more.](#)

Moving profile of MSW alum and his work in mental health



MSW alumnus Julius Boatwright, the founding CEO of Steel Smiling, a mental health service provider for African American adults and youth, has dedicated his work to improving the lives of those suffering from mental illness. Read more in the [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#).

Announcements:

Complete your Census today to show your community you care about its future! Visit <https://2020census.gov> or call 1-844-330-2020 to complete your 2020 Census response. Encourage others to do the same!

Upcoming Events

May 29, 2020: **Continuing Education: LGBTQ+ Cultural Responsiveness in Healthcare and Social Services: Building a Collaborative Relationship.** 9am-12pm. [Register here](#)

June 4, 2020: **Stay Positive, Test Negative feat. PhD student Laurenia Mangum** 6-7pm. [Register here](#)

June 5, 2020: **Continuing Education: On the Artificiality of Conflict: Emotional Process in Systems.** 9am-4pm. [Register here.](#)

For the latest announcements, as well as faculty, staff, student, and community resources related to the COVID-19 pandemic please visit the Pitt School of Social Work [website](#).

University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work

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