Community Engagement Fellow Virtual Reception

WEDNESDAY APRIL 8, 2020 | 3 P.M.- 5 P.M.
Welcome

Thank you for joining us today in this virtual reception to celebrate the School of Social Work 2019/2020 cohort of the Community Engagement Fellowship. Each of these students has worked hard. I am very proud of this inaugural cohort. This student experience would not have been possible without the support of our numerous community partners, guest speakers, and Field Instructors.

Although this program is not concluding with the celebration, we originally planned I hope that you will all take time to go to our website and view the student's presentations. They have done amazing work throughout this year and these presentations will serve as a legacy from this inaugural cohort.

Student presentations can be found at: https://www.socialwork.pitt.edu/2020-community-engagement-fellows-presentations
2019/2020 Seminar Presenters

Daren Ellerbee
Kirk Holbrook
Aerion Abney
Felicity
Williams
Tracy Soska
Dr. Lina
Dostilio
Demi Kolke
Brother Melvin
Hubbard

Jose Diaz
JaLissa Coffee
Reggie Good
Reverand
Walls
Dr. Trisha
Gadson
Jake Wheatley
Father Paul
Abernathy
The Fellows

Anette Nance

Anette Nance is originally from Auburn, Georgia and now calls Pittsburgh home. She is a second year student with a focus on Community Organizing and Social Action and will obtain a certificate in Human Services Management. Her current placement is at the University’s Community Engagement Center located in Homewood. She received her undergraduate degree from Ashford University in Psychology.

She has done advocacy work in the veteran space locally and regionally. Through her work she was one of 10 student veterans nominated for 2020 Student Veteran of the Yearfinalist in the nation for Student Veterans of America which is headquartered in Washington D.C. During her time at Pitt, she received a scholarship from the Center of Race and Social Problems to study abroad at the University of Havana in Cuba. Anette aspires to continue advocacy work and utilize her social work lens in various industries to focus on the importance of people.
Amanda Ritchie, an advanced standing COSA student, graduate from Virginia Commonwealth University in May 2019. She moved to Pittsburgh for the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work and the exciting opportunities that it offered. She is a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society and was Nu Rho Chapter Virginia Commonwealth University Social Work Federal Policy Fellow in 2019. Amanda is completing her field placement at the University of Pittsburgh Office of Community and Governmental Relations.
The Fellows

Daisia Williams

Daisia Williams is a Washington, DC. native. In May 2017, she earned her Bachelors of Social Work from Temple University. She was accepted into the Child Welfare Education Bachelorette (CWEB) program, and then hired as an employee of the Department of Human Services in Philadelphia. She worked in the Children, Youth, and Family Division for 2 years. Daisia is currently pursuing her Masters of Social Work, following the Community Organizing and Social Action (COSA) track.

She is an advance standing MSW student. Daisia is interning in the Office of Community and Governmental Relations (CGR) at the University of Pittsburgh. Specifically, she works under the supervision of Cassandra Hayt, Communication and Advocacy Manager. In this role, Daisia gains first-hand insight in how the University establishes and maintains its relationships with its surrounding community. Her body of work surrounds communicating the collaborative work of CGR and how the University has demonstrated commitment, mutual respect, and reciprocity with its community partners. Other being a Community Engagement Fellow, Daisia is the current President of the Student Executive Council of the School of Social Work and a recipient of the George F. and Mary Ann McGunagle Scholarship offered through Pitt's Nationality Rooms and Intercultural Exchange Programs.
Jessica Farrell received her bachelor's degree in Child Development from Mount Saint Mary's University in Los Angeles, California. During her undergraduate career, she was involved in Student Government, Women's Leadership, and Leadership Scholars. As recognition for Jessica's leadership, she received the University's highest honor, The President's Award.

Jessica decided to continue her education at the University of Pittsburgh because of the diverse curriculum and leadership opportunities. Jessica is a first-year student in the Master's in Social Work Program on the COSA concentration track. She is also pursuing a certificate in Human Services Management. Jessica is a fellow in the Community Engagement Fellowship and serves as Co-Business Manager for Student Executive Council. Jessica's field placement is with the State Representative Office of Ed Gainey.
Kat Bakrania is a 2nd year COSA student at the University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work. She will graduate at the end of April. She is placed at The Oasis Project in Homewood. Kat received her Bachelors in Political Science from the University of Rochester with a certificate in Community Engaged Learning.
Michael Dubinski is a first-year COSA-track student in the MSW program and is completing his field placement at Operation Better Block in Homewood. He obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree in Government, Law, and National Security and Philosophy from Misericordia University in Dallas, Pennsylvania.

Michael is also pursuing a dual degree in Public Administration through the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs. Outside of classes, Michael services as the Vice President of the Student Executive Council for MSW students here at Pitt and works as a youth swim coach at the Sewickley Valley YMCA. He is passionate about community and civic engagement and wishes to incorporate this passion into his future work in the political, governmental, and nonprofit sectors.
Morgan Overton is completing her 2nd and final year in the Master of Social Work Program, focusing on Community Organization and Social Action. Currently, her field placement is in State Representative Jake Wheatley’s Office, where she is focusing her efforts on public policy analysis to address gender inequities across Pennsylvania.

Morgan is a Pittsburgh native, and received her Bachelor of Science in Psychology and a minor in Studio Art also from the University of Pittsburgh in 2016. In 2019, Morgan received the Iris Marion Young Award for Political Engagement and Social Justice. She was also inducted into the Pittsburgh Business Times’ 30 Under 30 Awards.
Thank you to all of our Partners

Aliya. D. Durham
Daren Ellerbee
Kirk Hollbrook
Tracy Soska
Lina Dostilio
Homewood Community Engagement Center
University of Pittsburgh Office of Community and Governmental Relations

Hill District Community Engagement Center
Representative Jake Wheatley’s Office
Office of State Representative Ed Gainey
Operation Better Block
The Bible Center Church