

Millersville University

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
BASW • MSW • DSW

A Letter from the Chair



With the start of a new semester brings the start of new programs, new cohorts of students across all program levels, and new faculty and staff. Read, below, for more information on these new programs and additions to the School of Social Work. I am also honored to share with you the many activities in which our students and faculty are engaged that is having a direct impact within our communities. This year marked the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the social work program at Millersville University. Throughout those years, the School of Social Work at Millersville University has grown to become nationally recognized and innovative, providing our graduates with the knowledge and skills necessary to be positive change agents. During the upcoming year, we will have many opportunities to celebrate our successes and hope you will join us as we look forward to the next 40 years. In closing, I wish each of you a very happy holiday season and as we reflect upon this past year, let us all think of ways we can make a difference as Together, We Can Be The Change!

Dr. Rice

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SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK UPDATES

School of Social Work Welcomes New Faculty and Staff



The School of Social Work is proud to welcome our newest professor, [Dr. Bertha Saldana DeJesus](#). Dr. Saldana DeJesus earned her Doctor of Social Work at Kutztown University and Millersville University's joint DSW program. While completing her DSW degree, Dr. Saldana DeJesus worked as the Field Coordinator for the BASW and MSW programs at Millersville University. Dr. Saldana DeJesus has a variety of research interests including field education, child welfare, hospice, and topics related to the Latino population. Her areas of teaching include human behavior, social work practice, and field education. The School of Social Work is excited to have her as their newest professor.



The School of Social Work welcomes Ms. [Tammy Carson](#) as the new BASW/MSW Field Coordinator. Ms. Carson earned her Master of Social Work degree at the University of Pittsburgh. She also has a Master of Public Administration degree from Penn State University. Additionally, she is a licensed social worker. She has spent 15 years in social work education serving in the role of Field Coordinator Field Liaison at different institutions. In addition, Ms. Carson has experience working in clinical settings with a focus on child and adolescent mental health and wellness. The School of Social Work is excited to have Ms. Tammy Carson as the new Field Coordinator.

The Alliance for Social Change

This last semester marked a major change for the Social Work Organization

as it has adopted a new name: “The Alliance for Social Change” (ASC). The name change was initiated in an effort to attract students from multiple disciplines who are interested in the mission of promoting social justice. Throughout the fall semester, ASC hosted a blood drive with the Central Pennsylvania Blood Bank, provided tables for awareness for MU’s Multicultural Showcase and PrideFest Celebration, ran a “T-shirt Drive” for Lincoln



Elementary’s Communities in Schools program, and sponsored an Overdose Reversal Training with Lancaster County’s Project Lazarus. They are looking forward to being a co-sponsor of the Learning Institute’s Global Well-Being and Social Change Conference in April of 2019. All students, both undergraduate and graduate, who are interested in creating social change are welcome to attend their weekly meetings on Tuesdays, 6:00PM-7:30PM, in the Student Memorial Center.

Bill Signing with the Governor



Dr. Granruth, who organizes the School of Social Work's participation in NASW-PA's annual Legislative Education and Advocacy Day in Harrisburg was invited to participate in the mock signing ceremony of SB530 with Governor Tom Wolf (D) on Tuesday, October 2, 2018. SB530 amends the 1987 act, known as the Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists Counselors Act (P.L.220, No.39) providing definitions for qualifications for license, for reciprocity, for restriction on the use of title "licensed clinical social worker". Briefly, the law provides practice protection for social workers, meaning a social work position must be held by someone with a social work degree. The law extends to LCSWs the ability to diagnose clients. NASW-PA advocated for this law for 10 years. We thank all of our students and faculty who advocated over the years to make this law a realization.

BASW Graduates & Phi Alpha Inductees

Congratulations to our newest Phi Alpha Honor Society inductees and BASW graduates!



INNOVATIVE PROGRAMMING

Earn Your Doctor of Social Work



The [DSW program](#) is designed for individuals who wish to pursue their passion for social justice through leadership. The program affords its students the transformative opportunity to explore and develop as a scholar and practitioner. The program is primarily focused on preparing leaders and educators for career advancement in

agencies, government, and higher education. Request more information and apply to be part of the Fall 2019 cohort [here](#).

Second Cohort of Online Degree Completion

Our second cohort of the BASW [Online Degree Completion program](#) started Fall 2018. The program is designed for students who have previously completed their Associate Degree in Human or Social services.



The part-time degree completion program allows non-traditional students to earn their degree while meeting other life obligations. Read about one student's [experience](#). Apply for the online degree completion program [here](#).

Dual MSW-MED Sport Management Degree Launched

The School of Social Work is proud to announce the addition of the Master of



Social Work & Master of Education in Sport Management dual degree opportunity. The focus of the dual program is on mental health needs of athletes at all levels. For more information on this new program please click [here](#). Apply for the fall semester [here](#).

ADVANCING GLOBAL SOCIAL JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

The Learning Institute: Global Well-Being and Social Change

The School of Social Work faculty and staff continue to be leaders in the university and local, regional, and national community lending our knowledge and skills to advance social, economic, and environmental justice and human rights.

Monthly Events

The School of Social Work Learning Institute hosted a series of monthly events pertaining to race and racism during the Fall 2018 semester. One of the events, *When Race Determines Life or Death: Policing in America*, discussed how race plays a role in police officers choice to use lethal force against perpetrators. Please consider joining us for the February and March monthly events. For more information, click [here](#).

Webinar Series Launched

The Learning Institute implemented a Webinar Series focused on engaging in discussion around current policy relevant to social work practice across all levels. The first webinar, ICWA: 40 Years Later occurred in November. More Webinars are planned for the upcoming semester.



6th Annual Global Well-Being and Social Change Conference

The theme for this year's conference is Social Justice: Valuing Difference, Pursuing Equity, and Finding Space for Solidarity

The conference will take place at Millersville University campus April 24-26,

2019

- *For more information on the annual conference check out our [webpage](#).*
- *[Call For Proposals](#) – submit your research to present at this year's conference!*

School of Social Work Partners with Communities in Puerto Rico in Response to Disaster Relief

Drs. Karen Rice, Marc Felizzi and Duane Hagelgans (Emergency Management) led a week long service learning trip in Puerto Rico. Their first two days in Puerto Rico were spent learning about the relationship between the US and PR, the effects from Hurricane Maria, and the ongoing challenges communities are experiencing. Additionally, they engaged in experiential learning as they collaborated with the locals to assist in the recovery efforts.



Click here to take part in this year's annual [service learning trip to Puerto Rico](#).

A Friendly Reminder, we offer [CE credits](#) for training and workshops, including the Act 31 Mandated Reporter and Child Abuse Recognition training.

CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY

Community-Based Research on an Age-Friendly County

Drs. Kathleen Walsh and Bertha Saldana DeJesus worked with the Lancaster Area Senior Services (LASS) in determining if Lancaster County is an age-friendly community as outlined by the World Health Organization's Age-Friendly Cities and Communities Program framework. Drs. Walsh and Saldana DeJesus incorporated the age-friendly framework and the community-based research project in a macro level



practice course in the School of Social Work's BASW program. This provided students with a real world learning experience as they worked to complete an environmental scan throughout Lancaster County to determine the gaps in

services and resources for members of the aging population. In collaboration with Geography students, who taught our students how to use geo mapping, the students worked in groups to determine the most important social problems facing the aging population in Lancaster County. Social Work students conducted environmental scans of the county, and students in the Geography department analyzed the scans and created geomaps with the results. Social Work students then developed macro interventions to address the identified social problem. Drs. Walsh and Saldana DeJesus will present the findings to the County Commissioners and other key stakeholders. For a more in-depth review of this community research project please click [here](#).

Dr. Redcay Chairs Addiction Prevention Conference



Dr. Alex Redcay, assistant professor in the School of Social Work took the lead on organizing the “Compass Mark, From Challenges to Choices: Creating Positive Change” conference. The theme for the conference this year was “Rethinking Diversity.” The

conference was founded in 2011 when Compass Mark, an organization that provides addiction prevention programming, decided to combine two separate events, the Student Assistance Program Conference and the Prevention Forum. For more information, check out the article written on the conference [here](#).

UNIVERSITY INITIATIVES

Social Advocacy Living Learning Community Launched

The Housing and Residential Programs collaborated with the School of Social Work and the Psychology and Sociology Departments to begin the Social Advocacy Living-Learning Community program. This program was created for incoming freshmen majoring in anthropology, psychology, social work, or sociology. The students live together in the same residence hall based on shared



academic or other interests. Students who participate are passionate about advocacy, equity, social justice, and inclusion. The communities help students gain skill sets such as effective communication skills and networking skills among many others. Additionally, the communities provide students the opportunity to engage in tutoring, guest speakers, cultural programs, career workshops, community service, and research projects. Each living-learning community is guided, advised, and overseen by resident life student workers

and faculty who play an integral role in easing the transition from home to campus and creating a vibrant atmosphere for learning through co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. Read about the specifics of the program [here](#).

Dr. Rice Co-Chairs Diversity to Inclusion Initiative

The Diversity to Inclusion Leadership and Resource Teams were charged with leading, facilitating, and supporting cultural change on campus to increase capacity and promote an inclusive community at Millersville University. The immediate focus of the Leadership Team has been on completing an environmental scan of the University to identify current strengths, gaps, and challenges that exist both internally and externally. This has resulted in members of the team examining current and past policies and documents, as well as collecting additional data to assess what inclusion means to others and what that would look like at Millersville University. A draft Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Strategic Plan was prepared from the data collected. For more information click [here](#).

Drs. Frank and Rice Examine Food Insecurity of Millersville University Students

In partnership with the Campus Cupboard, a local food pantry on campus that works to provide free, nutritional meals, to students in need, Drs. Frank and Rice are conducting research to examine the extent of food insecurity among Millersville University students. The goal of the research is to obtain baseline data of where food insecurity is currently for MU students and then build a plan to help mitigate the effects of food insecurity. Dr. Frank is the adviser for Millersville's Food Recovery Network, which is a club on campus that sponsors "Swipe Out" day where students are able to donate their extra meal swipes to other students in need. For more information about that project check out the article [here](#).



Students Engage in Courageous Conversations to Raise Awareness and Build Coalitions



The School of Social Work's Learning Institute, Dr. Rita Smith Wade-El Intercultural Center, and Housing and Residential Programs collaborate to continue to offer a semester-long series: [Courageous Conversations](#). The goal is to promote inclusion as well as foster dialogue around difficult topics such

as race, sexuality, politics, religion, and disabilities. According to students, the conversations are an excellent way to unify the Millersville University community and allow all groups of students to be heard in a supportive space.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCHOLARSHIP ACTIVITIES

Dr. Marc Felizzi Now Certified in Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT)



The primary goal of Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) is to identify and effectively intervene with those who are at moderate or high risk for psycho-social or health care problems related to their substance use. The training, provided by Dr. Marc Felizzi in conjunction with the MU School of Social Work will educate professionals in the mental health, medical, nursing or academic professions of the screening for potential alcohol or drug abuse issues. The School of Social Work's Learning Institute will be offering a training, next semester, on the

use of SBIRT.

Faculty and Students Present at Annual NASW-PA Conference

Students from our BASW, MSW, and DSW programs attended the National Association of Social Workers-PA conference in September. The conference provides social workers the opportunity for professional development, continuing education, networking, and thought-provoking conversations surrounding topics in the social work profession.



Alumni Spotlight

Amanda Reilly, BASW '12



Upon graduation in 2012, Amanda worked in Philadelphia for the Arch Diocese as a case manager. There she was able to apply her social work knowledge to real world experiences. Currently, Amanda is collaborating with organizers, educators, and other professionals on two important projects. Within one campaign called the Reclaiming the Southwest Campaign, or “Reclamando el Suroeste de Chicago,”

Amanda is working on a long-standing campaign that toils endlessly to “reclaim” the local neighborhoods that were devastated by the foreclosure crisis of the 2000s. Through a process of joining forces with community members and local institutions, SWOP has helped 600 families avoid foreclosure, and has

also purchased and restored many once-vacant properties. Read more about Amanda's experiences [here](#).

Kelsey Miller, BASW '13, MSW '18

Kelsey Miller currently works as a Healthy Communities Program Manager at CHI St. Josephs Children's Health Hospital. Her responsibilities include managing their community health investments through a project called Healthy Columbia. Using a high impact funding model, Kelsey works within the community to identify needs, develop and implement the structures necessary to create a thriving community and improve the health of residents in Columbia Borough. Her current projects include the revitalization of a historic market house into a fresh food hub, the development of an affordable child care center, a lead poisoning prevention program, and a healthy starts initiative for infants. Throughout her studies within the School of Social Work, Kelsey learned how important working at all levels of social work practice is to the communities we serve. Her work is mostly done on the mezzo level but she still must consider micro implications and engage in policy on the local and state levels. Read more about Kelsey's experiences [here](#).



Dr. Ling Dinse, DSW '18



Dr. Ling Dinse was a member of the first cohort to graduate from Millersville University's DSW program. Her doctoral research focused on exiting commercial sex work. Under the guidance of Dr. Karen Rice, Dr. Dinse developed a training manual for service providers working with individuals contemplating long-term exit from the sex industry. Currently, Dr. Dinse is a full-time professor at Lancaster Bible College where she teaches courses on human trafficking. Read more about Dr. Dinse's research, DSW experiences,

and current work [here](#).

Scholarship

Presentations:

- **Bethel, J., Foels, L., Frank, J., & Redcay, A.** (2018, October). *Living room conversations in the classroom: Evaluating transformation*. Presented at the North American Association for Christians in Social Work (NACSW) Conference, Hartford, CT.
- **Bethel, J., Foels, L., Redcay, A., & Frank, J.** (2018, November). *Civil discourse and intergroup dialogue: Promoting diversity and social justice*. Presented at PASSHE Summit, West Chester, PA.
- **Counselman-Carpenter, E., & Redcay, A.** (2018, June). *Assessment and*

engagement for sexual minority women at risk for intimate partner violence. Presented at the National Association of Social Work (NASW), Shaping Tomorrow Together, Washington DC.

- Counselman-Carpenter, E., **Redcay, A., Freeman, A. (DSW Student)**, & Redcay, M. (2018, June). *Using bibliotherapy and cinematherapy in group work as tools to increase factors of resilience for LGBT individuals who come out later-in-life.* Presented at the XL Annual Symposium of the International Association for Social Work with Groups (IASWG), South Africa.
- **Felizzi, M.** (2018, November). *Social work implications to assist participants in hockey recruitment.* Presented at the fourth annual Alliance of Social Workers in Sports National Conference, Orlando, FL.
- **Frank, J., Granruth, L. B., & Girvin, H.** (2018). *Bridging the gap: Decreasing the social distance between socioeconomic groups.* Presented at the Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, Orlando, FL.
- **Frank, J., Rice, K., & Torchia, A.** (2018, June). *Assessing and understanding the food insecurity among college students.* Presented at the 5th Annual Global Well-Being and Social Change Conference: Wellness in our Community: Clarifying definitions, providing opportunities, protecting rights, Millersville University, Ware Center, Lancaster, PA.
- **Freeman, A. (DSW Student)**, & **Redcay, A.** (2018, June). *Group anger management: A diversionary program.* Presented at the XL Annual Symposium of the International Association for Social Work with Groups (IASWG), South Africa.
- **Freeman, A. (DSW Student)**, & **Redcay, A.** (2018, June). *Group arts-based programs for at-risk youth: A resiliency approach.* Presented at the XL Annual Symposium of the International Association for Social Work with Groups (IASWG), South Africa.
- **Granruth, L. B.** (2018). *How can we help?: Examining practice and equity in education. Panel Discussion.* Presented at the Second Symposium on Educational Leadership and Poverty, Millersville University, Harrisburg, PA.
- **Granruth, L. B.** (2018). *Where did grandma's (or grandpa's) money go?: Understanding and preventing the financial exploitation of elders.* Presented at the 5th Annual Global Well-Being and Social Change Conference: Wellness in our Community: Clarifying definitions, providing opportunities, protecting rights, Millersville University, Ware Center, Lancaster, PA.
- Huggins, M., Lee, E., & **Redcay, A.** (2018, September). *Macro practice.* Presented at the National Association for Social Workers (NASW) Conference, Pennsylvania Chapter, Pocono Manor, PA.
- **Redcay, A.** (2018, November). *Power, control, and relationship addiction.* Presented at the Falenablu Conference, Comitato Falenablu via del Dossol, Rovereto, Italy.
- **Redcay, A.** (2018, September). *Social work macro practice.* Presented at the Pennsylvania Association of Undergraduate Social Work Education (PAUSWE) National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Conference, Pennsylvania Chapter, Pocono Manor, PA.
- **Redcay, A.,** & Counselman-Carpenter, E. (2018, November). *The impact of transition, support and resilience on trans* physical and behavioral health.* Presented at the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Conference, Orlando, FL.
- **Redcay, A.,** Counselman-Carpenter, E., **Freeman, A. (DSW**

- Student**), & Redcay, M. (2018, June). *The importance of group work for preventing behavioral health issues and suicide among transgender individuals*. Presented at the XL Annual Symposium of the International Association for Social Work with Groups (IASWG), South Africa.
- **Redcay, A.**, & Luquet, W. (2018, September). *Trans-parenting: Clinical work with families of transgender individuals*. Presented at the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Conference, Pennsylvania Chapter, Pocono Manor, PA.
 - Redcay, M., & **Redcay, A.** (2018, May). *Emotional intelligence*. Presented at the National Association of Social Workers (NASW), New Jersey Conference, Atlantic City, NJ.
 - Redcay, M., & **Redcay, A.** (2018, September). *Treatment engagement and cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) for Latinos: Recommendations for culturally sensitive practice*. Presented at the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Conference, Pennsylvania Chapter, Pocono Manor, PA.
 - Wright, T., **Redcay, A.**, Pruskowski, N., & Hutchinson, A. (2018, October). *Diverse perspectives on implementing a preferred name policy*. Presented at PASSHE Women's Consortium Conference at Lock Haven University, Lock Haven, PA.
 - Mapp, S., **Rice, K.**, Berghoef, M. (2018, November). *Applying a rights-based approach to short-term study abroad and service learning trips*. Presented at the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Conference, Orlando, FL.
 - **Rice, K.** (2018, September). *Inclusivity: Building compassionate organizations*. Presented at the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Conference, Pennsylvania Chapter, Pocono Manor, PA.
 - **Rice, K., Girvin, H., & Frank, J.** (2018, June). *Utilizing expressive arts to promote well-being*. Presented at the 5th Annual Global Well-Being and Social Change Conference: Wellness in our Community: Clarifying definitions, providing opportunities, protecting rights, Millersville University, Ware Center, Lancaster, PA.
 - **Rice, K., & Vicente, C. (BASW Student)** (2018, July). *Courageous conversations: Building alliances for collaborative social action*. Presented at the annual Rural Social Work Conference, Murray State University, Murray, KY.

Faculty, Staff, and Student Publication:

- **Brierton Granruth, L.**, & Pashkova-Balkenhol, T. (2018). The benefits of improved information literacy skills on student writing skills: Developing a collaborative teaching model with research librarians in undergraduate social work education. *Journal of Teaching in Social Work*, 38(5), 453-469. DOI: 10.1080/08841233.2018.1527427
- Counselman-Carpenter, E., & **Redcay, A.** (2018). Mining for posttraumatic growth (PTG) in sexual minority women who survive intimate partner violence: A conceptual perspective. *Behavioral Sciences*, 8(77), 1-10. DOI: 10.3390/bs8090077
- **Redcay, A.**, Counselman-Carpenter, E., & **Proctor, C.** (2018). The impact of fluidity on mental health. *Journal of Gay and Lesbian Mental Health (GLMH)*. DOI: 10.1080/19359705.2018.1528915
- **Redcay, A.**, & Simonetti, C. (2018). Criteria for love & relationship addiction: Distinguishing relationship addiction from other substance and behavioral addictions. *Sexual Addiction & Compulsivity: The Journal of*

- Treatment & Prevention*, 25(1). DOI: 10.1080/10720162.2017.1403984
- Stylianou, A. M., Counselman-Carpenter, E., & **Redcay, A.** (2018). "My sister is the one that made me stay above water" How social supports are maintained and strained when survivors of intimate partner violence reside in emergency shelter programs. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*. DOI: 10.1177/0886260518816320

Appointments:

- **Dr. Laura Brierton Granruth** has been elected to the Board of Directors for Influencing Social Policy, an organization that prepares and motivates social workers to play an active role in shaping the social policies that impact people and communities.
- **Dr. Felizzi** was appointed to the Council on Social Work Education's National Task Force Steering Committee and assisted in the creation of the Specialized Practice Curricular Guide for Trauma-Informed Social Work Practice, which has been published and released, September 2018.
- **Dr. Felizzi** was appointed to the Editorial Board of the Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment & Trauma
- **Dr. Curtis Proctor** has been appointed as a board member to The People's Shakespeare Project.
- **Dr. Karen Rice** was appointed to the PA State County Commissioners Task Force to examine workforce needs and identify strategies to meet those needs.

Scholarship and Grant Awards:

- **Ms. Micah Beaston** (DSW Student) received Scholarship from Graduate Studies & Adult Learning to support her research, Human Rights-Based Approach to Disaster Management that took place June, 2018 in Puerto Rico
- **Dr. Jennifer Frank** was awarded a \$2000 community engagement grant from Center for Public Scholarship and Social Change for, "Developing Partnerships to Create Community: The Loft as a HUB of Connection"
- **Drs. Jennifer Frank** and **Laura Brierton Granruth** were awarded a \$2000 community engagement grant from Center for Public Scholarship and Social Change for, "The Road Home Training Initiative Evaluation"
- **Ms. Tami Micsky** (DSW Student) received a Noonan Endowment Award for off campus research and conference participation