

Fall 2024

Department of Social Work

# IMPACT

Serving generations, changing the world.



**Northwestern**<sup>TM</sup>  
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

# FACULTY

## A Message From the Department

On behalf of the Department of Social Work, we welcome you to the Northwestern Oklahoma State University's Social Work Program newsletter. We're excited to share our latest updates, insights, and stories from the Department. This newsletter is designed to keep you informed about upcoming events, highlight inspiring projects, and celebrate the achievements of our students and faculty. As we continue to advocate for social justice and support those in need, we encourage you to engage with the content, share your thoughts, and contribute your own stories. Together, we can strengthen our community and enhance our impact.

Thank you for being a vital part of our program. We look forward to connecting with you through this newsletter!

Empowering Social Workers - Ride Rangers Ride



DR. KYLENE REHDER, LCSW  
Professor of Social Work  
Social Work Program Director  
Jesse Dunn 308 Alva Campus  
(580) 327-8135  
kdrehder@nwsu.edu



# Micro-Credential in Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health

## Established at Northwestern



(Right) Carol Stocking MSW, LCSW, RPT, and Western Plains Youth and Family Services Infant and Early Childhood Program Director who also serves as a social work adjunct instructor at Northwestern visits with Cammi Rogge, Alva senior social work major.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University now offers social service professionals and other students two ways to increase their training in Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health after establishing a micro-credential program, which joins a minor in this field that began in Fall 2023. “Responsive and trusted relationships are fundamental to infant mental health, and having professionals trained in this field can support caregivers in helping babies learn how to experience, manage and express their emotions, establishing a foundation for lifelong health and well-being,” Dr. Kylee Rehder, social work department chair, said. As for the established minor in infant and early childhood mental health, it consists of 20 credit hours in the fields of education, psychology and social work and also will be administered through the Department of Social Work. The minor is designed for students in a helping profession with an interest in integrating knowledge of infant and childhood mental health into their professional practice. The coursework guides professionals in understanding the complexities of infant and early childhood mental health for practical application in their major disciplines.



# 100 SOCIAL WORK JOBS

## HEALTH & MEDICAL

Medical Social Worker  
Healthcare Social Worker  
Hospice & Palliative Care Social Worker  
Health Clinic Social Worker  
Integrated Health Social Worker  
Behavioral Health Social Worker  
Public Health Social Worker  
Mental Health Therapist  
Geriatric Social Worker  
Behavioral Health Care Specialist  
Rehabilitation Social Worker  
Psychiatric Social Worker

Patient Advocate  
Child Life Specialist  
Medical Case Manager  
Home Health Social Worker  
Hospital Social Worker  
Pediatric Social Worker  
Prevention Specialist  
Emergency Room Social Worker  
Oncology Social Worker  
Dialysis Social Worker  
Community Health Social Worker

## EDUCATION

School-Based Social Worker  
School Counselor  
School-Based Mental Health Therapist  
Social Work Educator  
Student Support Specialist  
School Behavioral Interventionist

## MENTAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW)  
Mental Health Advocate  
Substance Abuse Counselor  
Marriage & Family Therapist  
Assessment Specialist  
Psychiatric Social Worker  
Addiction Counselor  
Crisis Intervention Specialist  
Behavioral Health Specialist  
Dual Diagnosis Therapist  
Rehabilitation Counselor  
Case Manager  
Outreach Worker  
Program Coordinator  
Crisis Therapist  
Intake Specialist  
Recovery Social Worker  
Eating Disorder Specialist  
Mental Health Program Director  
Community Mental Health Worker

## SPECIAL POPULATIONS, ISSUES & SETTINGS

Child Welfare Specialist  
Certified Sports Social Worker  
Veterinary Social Worker  
Disaster Relief Social Worker  
Infant Mental Health Specialist  
Forensic Social Worker  
Homelessness Social Worker  
Adoption Specialist  
Disability Services Social Worker  
Foster Care Social Worker  
Expert Witness  
Rural Social Worker  
Trauma Based Social Worker  
Residential Treatment Specialist

Military & Veteran Affairs Social Worker  
Domestic Violence Social Worker  
Child Protection Services Social Worker  
Gerontology Social Worker  
International Social Worker  
Tribal Social Worker  
Juvenile Services Specialist  
Legal Aid Social Worker  
Correctional Treatment Social Worker  
Re-Entry Specialist  
Victim Advocate  
Senior Services Specialist  
Grief Therapist

## ADMINISTRATION, POLICY & RESEARCH

Social Policy Researcher  
Policy Developer  
Community Outreach Director  
Nonprofit Administrator  
Public Policy Manager  
Program Developer  
Research Associate  
Employee Assistance Program Specialist  
Politician  
Strategic Planner  
Policy Advisor  
Lobbyist

Community Program Manager  
Director of Social Services  
Policy Analyst  
Program Director  
Research Coordinator  
Grant Writer  
Program Evaluator  
Community Organizer  
Legislative Advocate  
Author  
Project Manager  
Data Analyst



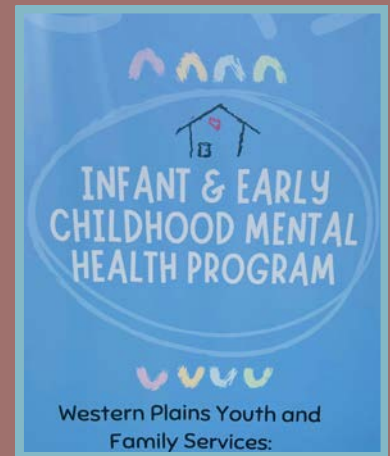
## NWOSU Club & Organization Fair

Alana Shotpouch with Dr. Rehder & Professor Harding.

# Know & Grow Family Resource Center



Western Plains Youth & Family Services celebrated the opening of a new Know and Grow Oklahoma Family Resource center this Fall. The center was made possible by funding from the Potts Family Foundation through an American Rescue Plan Act grant. It will serve children and families from multiple counties, including Woodward, Beaver, Dewey, Ellis, Harper, and Cimarron. The Department of Social Work is proud to partner with WPYFS Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health Program.



Dr. Rehder pictured with former NWOSU BSW students: Giselle Minjares (BSW '24); Jennifer Pribble (BSW '12); Dr. Rehder; Carol Stocking (BSW '08); Kailie Martin (BSW '22); Codi Harding (BSW '17); Chantal Rocha (BSW '23).



Thank you Misty Stanberry, child welfare professional enhancement program manager from OU's Anne and Henry Zarrow School of Social Work, for your presentation!



## CHILD WELFARE PROFESSIONAL ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (CWPEP)

### EXPERIENCE THE CHALLENGE OF CHILD WELFARE SOCIAL WORK

The Child Welfare Professional Enhancement Program, (CWPEP) offers students the opportunity to make a commitment to serve Oklahoma families and children at risk of abuse and/or neglect. Applications are available to all undergraduate social work majors who are U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents of the U.S. This program is funded by the Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OKDHS), Children and Family Services Division, through Title IV-E of the Social Security Act.

### STATEWIDE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Coordinated by the University of Oklahoma Anne and Henry Zarrow School of Social Work, the Child Welfare Professional Enhancement Program is also available to other accredited undergraduate social work programs, including The University of Oklahoma, East Central University, Oral Roberts University, and Northwestern Oklahoma State University at Alva, Enid and Woodward. These BSW programs and the OU Graduate Program at both the Norman and Tulsa sites work jointly to provide an exciting opportunity for social work majors who desire a career in public child welfare. Each school awards stipends or pays tuition costs, certain fees and required textbooks up to the total amount of the stipend to a certain number of students each year.

### CHILD WELFARE TRAINEESHIPS AT NWSU

**Awards Given:** Up to 3 per year in the BSW program  
(juniors and seniors)

**Funding Base:** Title IV-E of the Social Security Act.

**\$8,092 per year**

**Eligibility:** Must be undergraduate social work student, junior level or above. Must demonstrate, through an application and a written essay, a career interest in the field of child welfare and the willingness to be contractually obligated to work for the OKDHS, Child Welfare, for a specified period of time upon completion of degree program. All applicants are required to have a criminal background check and a driving records check to be considered for the program. Applicants must be citizens of the United States or legal permanent residents of the U.S.

### MONTHLY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Students accepted into the program receive monthly stipends or payment is made for tuition, certain fees and required textbooks. Students sign legally binding contracts that require an employment obligation to OKDHS/CW of one calendar year for each academic year of financial assistance or to repay the money expended. Child Welfare employees approved for educational leave by OKDHS may apply to the CWPEP.

### STUDENT REQUIREMENTS

Students accepted into the Child Welfare Professional Enhancement Program are required to take child welfare-related classes, to attend the OKDHS CORE Training Program and to have field placements in OKDHS Child Welfare county offices. Upon completion of the Bachelors degree, social workers enter OKDHS employment as Child Welfare Specialists.

### CAREER OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OKDHS) offers Child Welfare career opportunities throughout the state of Oklahoma. OKDHS works actively to assist BSW and MSW graduates in finding employment. CWPEP is available to Native American tribal employees if the tribe has a Tribal-State Agreement with OKDHS. Tribal employees are required to work in the tribe's Indian Child Welfare program upon graduation.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

**Dr. Kylene Rehder, LCSW**  
Professor of Social Work  
Social Work Program Director &  
CWPEP Coordinator  
Jesse Dunn 308 Alva Campus  
(580) 327-8135  
kdrhder@nwsu.edu



**OKLAHOMA  
Human Services**

For CWPEP application information,  
go to our website:  
[www.nwsu.edu/school-of-arts-and-sciences/social-work](http://www.nwsu.edu/school-of-arts-and-sciences/social-work)



SCAN ME

# SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM



**Northwestern**<sup>TM</sup>  
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

The Social Work Program at Northwestern Oklahoma State University is part of the Department of Social Work and is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education's Board of Accreditation. The program requires 45 hours for majors and includes field education in a community agency. Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) graduates are prepared to provide competent, effective, generalist practice social work services. BSWs are also eligible for advanced standing in graduate social work programs offering the MSW degree.

For more information about the NWOSU Department of Social Work, contact us at: (580) 327-8134 or on the web @ <https://www.nwosu.edu/school-of-arts-and-sciences/social-work>



SCAN ME

### WHAT DO SOCIAL WORKERS DO?

Professional social workers are found in every facet of community life - in schools, hospitals, mental health clinics, senior centers, elected office, private practices, prisons, military, corporations, and in numerous public and private agencies that serve individuals, families & communities in need. They often specialize in one or more of the following practice areas:

Mental Health Therapy · Disaster Relief · Military Social Work · Rural Social Work · Adoption & Foster Care · Child Welfare Services · Family Preservation Services · Homeless Family Assistance · Eating Disorders · Community, Maternal & Child Health · Medical Social Work · Crisis Intervention · School Social Work · Hospice & Palliative Care · Depression · Institutional Care · Outpatient Treatment · Development Disabilities · International Social Work · Advocacy, Consulting & Planning · Community Mental Health · Employee Assistance · Private Practice · Veterans Services · Child Abuse & Neglect · Domestic Violence · Political Development · Parent Education · Recreation & Socialization Services · Family Planning · Veterinary Social Work · School-Based Programs · Gerontology Services · Community-Based Services · In-Home Services · Sports Social Work · Dementia & Alzheimer's · Addictions: Prevention/Treatment · Criminal Justice · Housing Assistance · Public Welfare · Employment Services

### SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Dr. Kylene Rehder, LCSW  
Professor of Social Work  
Social Work Program Director  
Department Chair  
Jesse Dunn 308 Alva Campus  
(580) 327-8135  
kdrehder@nwosu.edu



### SOCIAL WORK COURSE SEQUENCE FOR MAJORS

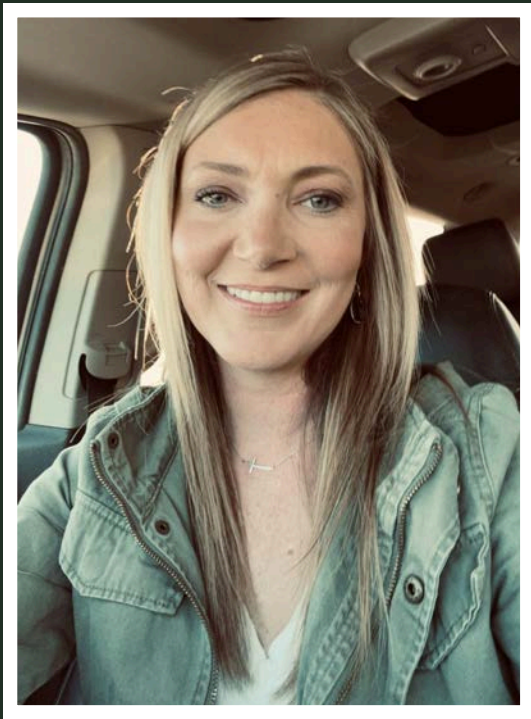
Year & Number	Hrs	Course Title
<b>Sophomore Year</b>		
SOCW 2113	3	Social Work: A Helping Profession *
SOCW 2121	1	Service Learning in Social Work co-requisite*
<b>Junior Year</b>		
<i>Admission to the Major</i>		
SOCW 3214	4	Human Behavior and the Social Environment
SOCW 3543	3	Diversity and Social Justice
SOCW 3143	3	Social Welfare Policies & Services
SOCW 3293	3	SOCW Practice with Individuals
<b>Senior Year</b>		
<i>Admission to the Practicum</i>		
SOCW 4023	3	SOCW Practice with Families and Groups
SOCW 4143	3	Social Research and Evaluation
SOCW 4113	3	SOCW Practice with Organizations and Communities
SOCW 4205	5	Field Experience I: Spring
SOCW 4215	5	Field Experience II: Spring or Summer
SOCW Electives	9	SOCW or SOC Electives (9)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>45</b>	* Courses are co-requisite-prior to admission to social work

Social work is a challenging and rewarding profession, one that is dedicated to the greater good in our society and for our clients. Social work is an art, a science, and a profession that helps people solve personal, group, family, and community problems.



# Student Spotlight

## Tyra Hostetler



I chose social work because I have a deep desire to help others navigate challenges and improve their lives. Social work provides the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of individuals and my community. The NWOSU social work program focuses on advocacy, empathy, and empowerment which aligns with my values. I am passionate about fostering a positive change and ensuring that everyone has access to the resources and support they need to thrive. I am excited about where this degree and career will take me.

Isabella Burden and Professor Harding attending the Child Abuse Medical Examiners Training in Tulsa.





# SOCIAL WORK SENIOR DAY!



Social work student shop for professional wear from the Teacher's Closet and receive professional headshots.

Special thanks to NWOSU Teacher's Closet, Dr. Oswald, & NWOSU University Relations.





2024  
WOODWARD  
Adult Prom



The Department of Social Work was proud to support Circle of Care's Fundraiser in their mission to bring help, healing, and hope to families and kids in our community.

2024  
WOODWARD  
Adult Prom

<https://circleofcare.org/news/woodwardadultprom/>

SEPT  
28  
6:00PM

SCAN FOR TICKETS



CIRCLE  
OF CARE

WOODWARD  
CONFERENCE  
CENTER

3401 Centennial Ln, Woodward, OK

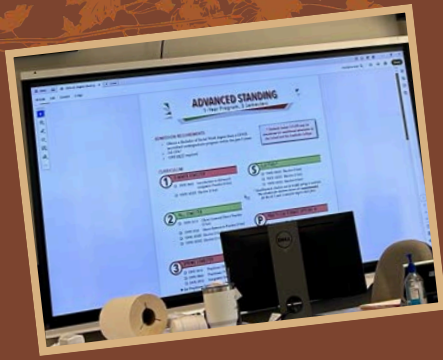
- Live DJ
- Appetizers
- Dancing
- Desserts
- Photo Booths

You're  
Invited!



2024  
WOODWARD  
Adult Prom





Thanks to Charlotte Kendrick, graduate coordinator from the University of Oklahoma's Anne and Henry Zarrow School of Social Work for presenting about the Masters of Social Work degree.



Jenna Maier, a junior social work major from Alva, is enrolled in the new social work paid practicum partnership with Bill Johnson Correctional Center (BJCC). Trent Spade is the treatment director at BJCC.



# Social Work students from Northwestern attending the Oklahoma State Board of Licensed Social Workers Board meeting



Left to right: Hunter McMillin, Alyssa Arambula, Mackenzie Hoskins, Yasmin Vargas, Harlie Altland, Tori Tyler, Amanda Houldsworth, Kimberly Ruf and Samuel Felton.



Dr. Kylene Rehder presents research and a proposal to change the Licensed Social Work Associate (LSWA) licensure title to Licensed Bachelor's Social Worker (LBSW). The motion passed and a committee will begin drafting language for the creation of a bill to revise the Oklahoma Social Work Practice Act.

**Northwestern Oklahoma State University's  
Department of Social Work has named two students  
as stipend recipients of the Child Welfare Professional  
enhancement Program (CWPEP) for the 2024-25  
academic year.**



**Kyra Hussey, senior from Okeene (left) and Cammi Rogge, senior from Alva.**

CWPEP provides funds for students who plan careers in child welfare services in Oklahoma.

“I am truly grateful for the opportunity to participate in this program,” Hussey said. “It will significantly enhance my education and contribute to my future career as a professional social worker.” The stipends are awarded to full-time students majoring in social work and provide money towards educational expenses to participating students.

“I am both honored and enthusiastic to be accepted into the CWPEP program,” Rogge said. “This opportunity will deepen my understanding of child welfare and enhance my professional skills, equipping me to make a meaningful impact in the field.”

**CWPEP at Northwestern has graduated 24 students, resulting in \$186,200 awarded in educational assistance.**



Professor Harding presented to the Timberlake High School FCCLA, providing students with information about the Social Work major at NWOSU and the diverse opportunities and career paths within the field. Additionally the Primp for Prom and Ranger Preview events were discussed.



We are so proud of our student volunteers!  
Alana Shotpouch & Isabella Burden

thank you

A Habit of Helping  
**BANK IT**

We appreciate this mini grant so very much! We will put it to great use helping our Campus Cabinet family.

**Campus Cabinet**  
Northwestern Food Pantry



Volunteers Isabella Burden, Alana Shotpouch and Angelia Case, Campus Cabinet Coordinator, accept the Bank It check from Kelsey Martin, Bank It Board Member.



# Northwestern Oklahoma State University's Department of Social Work has been awarded a \$40,000 grant to establish an Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health Training Academy

This academy will financially support university course work, training opportunities for social service professionals and offer a paid practicum experience in IECMH for a senior social work student.

Dr. Kylene Rehder, chair of the department of social work, authored the grant and will serve as the project's principal investigator and director. "By strengthening knowledge of IECMH, professionals can play a critical role in shaping healthier developmental trajectories for children, ensuring they receive the support needed for emotional and mental well-being," Rehder said.

The training academy will provide students and professionals in Oklahoma with knowledge on brain development, emotional regulation, social relationships, cognitive development and prevention.



**Carol Stocking, (left) Instructor of  
Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health  
&  
Dr. Kylene Rehder, (right) Department  
Chair of Social work & grant author**



*Thank you, Dr. Rehder, Shaelynn Coffey, Alyssa Lee & Melanie Oakes for sharing your personal stories with us.*

**Guest parent panel in the Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health course with Instructor Stocking.**

**Congratulations to Dr. Rehder for her service as an Enrollment & Retention Champion.**





# Ranger Preview



Krystan Pierce & Isabella Burden

**Way to go Professor Harding!  
Congratulations on your outstanding  
diversity engagement.**



# Board Members

The Social Work Program Advisory Board is comprised of social workers, practitioners, and leaders in our local communities that foster and support the continued development of social work education in the region. While members come from different communities, the committee is seen as one functional unit and focuses on the overall development of the program. The primary purpose of the board is to maintain active communication between the social work practice community and the program to ensure continued improvement.

The Social Work Program Advisory Board addresses the following: student preparation to meet community and agency needs, expectations for students in field education, program assessment outcomes, input on educational policies, student recruitment and retention, job placement, research initiatives, and identifying agency needs that the social work program can address to contribute to community betterment.



**Kevin Evans, Executive Director**  
Western Plains Youth and Family Services

**Amy Whitson, MSW,**  
Child Welfare Deputy Director  
Region I, Oklahoma Department of Human Services



**Kailie Martin, BSW, MSW**  
Outpatient Therapist  
Western Plains Youth and Family Services

**James Marks, MSW, LCSW**  
Executive Director  
Oklahoma State Board of Licensed Social Workers



**Krystan Pierce, BSW Student**  
SWAT: Student Organization President  
Northwestern Oklahoma State University

**Raquel Razien, BSW, MSW**  
Woodward County Care Portal  
Community Coordinator

