

Fall 2024

Department of Social Work

IMPACT

Serving generations, changing the world.



NorthwesternTM
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@nwosu.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. Kylene 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.



NorthwesternTM

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

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



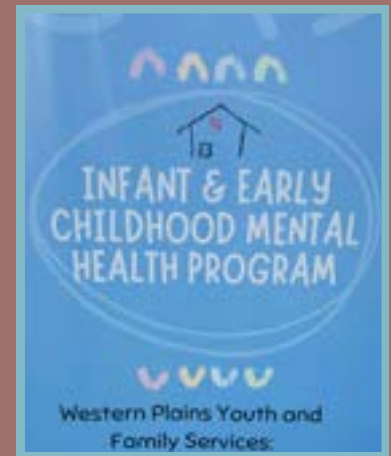
NWOSU Club & Organization Fair

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 TRAINERSHIPS 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 Bohrer, LCSW
Professor of Social Work
Social Work Program Director &
CWPEP Coordinator
Social Work 208 Alva Campus
(918) 323-8131
kboh@northwestern.edu



**OKLAHOMA
Human Services**

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



SCAN ME

SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM



Northwestern™
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

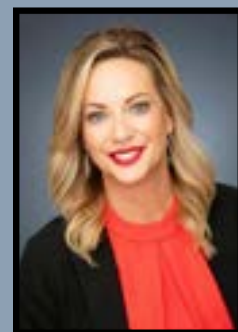
WHAT DO SOCIAL WORKERS DO?

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
Sophomore Year		
SOCW 2113	3	Social Work: A Helping Profession *
SOCW 2121	1	Service Learning in Social Work co-requisite*
Junior Year		
Admission to the Major		
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
Senior Year		
Admission to the Practicum		
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)
TOTAL	45	* 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.

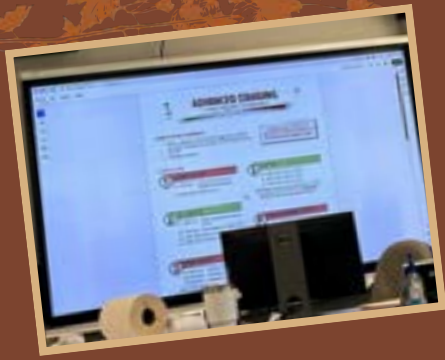
Special thanks to NWOSU Teacher's Closet, Dr. Oswald, & NWOSU University Relations.





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.





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.



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



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

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



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

