

# INDIANA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

## Highlights Report

2013-2014 Academic Year

Socialwork.iu.edu

### Advances in Health and Life Sciences

- Assistant Professor of Social Work and Adjunct Professor of Law Heather A. McCabe was named one of ten Faculty Fellows for the Future of Public Health Law Education: Faculty Fellowship Program. The program is funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and administered through the Georgia State University College of Law and its Center for Law Health & Society. It seeks to foster innovations and build a learning community among those who teach public health law at professional and graduate schools. McCabe also chairs the Law Section of the American Public Health Association.  
[https://www.facebook.com/iusocialwork?ref\\_type=bookmark](https://www.facebook.com/iusocialwork?ref_type=bookmark)
- Professor James A. Hall, a Professor with a joint appointment in Social Work and Adolescent Medicine, is engaged in a multi-year study to evaluate the Indiana IV-E Demonstration Program of the Indiana Department of Child Services. The evaluation will determine the effectiveness of an expanded array of new and existing in-home and community-based family preservation, reunification and adoption services in improving safety, permanency, and well-being outcomes for children in or at risk of entering out-of home placement.
- Dr. Betty Walton is the Director of the Child and Adolescent Needs & Strengths Assessment (CANS) and the Adult Needs and Strengths Assessment program. The assessment tools creates a common language to help link the assessment process and the design of individualized service plans, including the use of evidence-based practices.
- Professor Patrick Sullivan, who was one of 10 faculty members selected nationwide to develop two courses on integrated health care, continues to work with the Council on Social Work on integrated health care with CSWE.

- School of Social Work faculty collaborate with faculty from other schools, such as medicine, nursing and law, in an effort to provide students with a greater understanding of how professionals from different disciplines can work together. The School of Social Work is a founding member of the IU Center for Interprofessional Health Education and Practice.

### **Success of Students**

- Tracy McDaniel left the corporate world to pursue a Master of Social Work degree at the School of Social Work. Following her faith and passion for working with sex trafficking victims, McDaniel started planning the development of a new agency called Restored even before she received her degree in May. Restored will serve as a safe-haven for domestic sex trafficking and sexually exploited girls.
- Erin Sass, a Bachelor of Social Work student, helped organize the Paw's Food Pantry on the IUPUI campus. The pantry was created to help students who have little money left over for food after paying their academic bills. <http://news.iupui.edu/releases/2013/09/food-pantry.shtml>
- School of Social Work students were among those that testified before an Indiana legislative committee, the Commission on Improving the Status of Children in Indiana: Substance Abuse and Child Safety Taskforce. The students discussed the barriers social workers face to practicing in juvenile justice settings and offered recommendations on how to increase the number of social work students completing internships in juvenile justice.
- Master of Social Work students are an integral part of the Indiana University Student Outreach Clinic that received a Governor's Service Award. The clinic serves people living on the eastside of Indianapolis. The social work students assess the needs of the people as enter the clinic and then guide them to other services at the clinic or to resources in the community.
- Three Master of Social Work students received the 2014 William M. Plater Civic Engagement Medallions for their work with a variety of agencies, including the Indiana University Student Outreach Clinic on the eastside of Indianapolis, America Reads-America Counts and improving the health and wellbeing of youth with special health care needs through service with several organizations including the Center for Youth and Adults with Conditions of Childhood.

- PhD students and recent graduates of the School of Social Work utilized their research into scores of publications ranging from peer-reviewed articles to technical reports, chapters in books and presentations at national conferences. Taken together, the students generated more than 100 publications and presentations this last year.

### **Contributions to the Well-Being of Citizens**

- Dr. Khadija Khaja, an Associate Professor of Social Work, is leading the Common Theme Project at IUPUI. The project focuses on civil discourse in the classroom, work place and public sphere.
- When the news about the kidnapped girls in Nigeria came out, social work students at IUSB decided they had to do something. Indiana is a long way from Nigeria, but they felt so moved by the plight of the girls, they felt compelled to act. They walked across campus with signs that simply read: “Bring Back Our Girls.”
- To ensure Indiana continues to serve Indiana’s most vulnerable children in the best way possible, the Child Welfare Management Innovations Institute hosted a conference to train and educate the next generation of leaders for public child welfare. The institute is just one element of a partnership between the School of Social Work and the Indiana Department of Child Services.
- Social work students are offered a unique opportunity to work with residents of war-torn communities in Croatia as part of an international service learning class in Croatia: Social Work Practice in Post-War Communities. The course is taught by Dr. Carmen Luca Sugawara, a native of Romania, who has extensive contacts with social service agencies in Croatia.
- Reacting to the ongoing debate on increasing the minimum wage, a Master of Social Work Leadership class held a public forum on, “Working for a Living: Advocating for a Living Wage. The forum involved a panel of speakers from diverse backgrounds in business, labor, law, and social work, who presented their cases for an increased minimum wage and other income policies that would support working families. In addition to engaging Indiana National Association of

Social Works chapter as a co-sponsor, students worked with Raise the Wage and other organizations to support their education and petition campaigns.

- Bachelor and Master of Social Work students all complete practicums in social service agencies as part of their program requirements. Some 1,200 students spend on average 390,000 hours annually working in social service agencies in central Indiana and across the state.
- Social Work and law students in the Civil Practice Clinic visited the Indiana Re-Entry facility in Indianapolis and learned of needs of the inmates. The students decided they could help the inmates and collected clothing and other items they delivered to the facility.
- The School of Social Work is doing its part to help reduce the shortfall in the human services workforce in Indiana through its online Master of Social Work degree program, MSW Direct. The program offers students who do not live near an IU campus and are unable to leave their jobs and family a chance to obtain a graduate social work degree. The program has not only proved popular with Indiana students, but with students across the country who often live in rural areas and want to earn a MSW degree.

## **Collaboration**

- A proposal from the faculty of the School of Social Work and the Schools of Nursing and Medicine was awarded a \$900,000 federal grant aimed at improving the health of a large number of adolescents and adults at risk for one or more substance use disorders. The proposal involves 60 Master of Social Work students, 60 Nurse Practitioner students and 50 medical residents.  
[http://socialwork.iu.edu/iussw\\_news/Press\\_release\\_example94.php](http://socialwork.iu.edu/iussw_news/Press_release_example94.php)
- Dr. Stephanie Boys of the School of Social Work and Carrie Hagan, a Clinical Associate Professor of Law at the Robert H. McKinney School of Law, have teamed up to provide a unique opportunity for social work and law students called the Civil Practice Clinic. Eight social work and 8 law students worked together. Social Work students taught the law students about interviewing skills and empathy and the law students taught the social work students about legal processes and testifying in court. The students were then paired as teams to help clients referred to them by Indiana Legal Services.

- Dr. Carolyn Gentle-Genitty was awarded the 2013 Glenn W. Irwin Experience Excellence Recognition Award for the time she has devoted to the lives of students, the School of Social Work and programs that cut across the IUPUI campus and community at-large. In a letter informing Dr. Gentle-Genitty she had been selected to receive the award, IUPUI Chancellor Charles Bantz told her, “You are clearly one of the key contributors to the greatness that we believe is the destiny of IUPUI.”

### **Best Practices**

- The School of Social Work hosted eight leaders in military social work from the Republic of Korea in an unprecedented meeting to discuss how the two countries deliver military social work. The Korean representatives came to meet with Dr. James Daley, a national expert on military social work and visit agencies assisting veterans.  
[http://socialwork.iu.edu/iussw\\_news/Press\\_release\\_example98.php](http://socialwork.iu.edu/iussw_news/Press_release_example98.php)
- The School of Social Work publishes *Advances in Social Work*, an online, peer-reviewed journal committed to enhancing the links among social work practice, research and education. Two special issues this year showcase the scope of the journal. The first was the “Impact of Socio-Economic, Cultural, Political and International Factors on Latinos/Latinas in the United States.” The issue contributed to the discourse on Latinos in areas of interest to social workers and other human services providers and offers an understanding of the Latino experience in this country. The second issue focuses on the Sages of Social Work, a retrospective exploration of some of the critical events in the history of the profession that have contributed to and help shape our present understanding of social work practice and education.  
<http://journals.iupui.edu/index.php/advancesinsocialwork>
- The Child Welfare Education and Training Partnership between the School of Social Work and the Indiana Department of Child Services has transformed how Indiana protects its children. The partnership is overseen by the School of Social Work and includes BSW and MSW students from Indiana public schools of social work. Child Welfare Scholars graduates who go on to work at DCS. [http://socialwork.iu.edu/iussw\\_news/Press\\_release\\_example102.php](http://socialwork.iu.edu/iussw_news/Press_release_example102.php)