

Contact

School of Social Work

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Spring 2018



**INVESTING IN
THE FUTURE**

Funding a new generation
of social work



Dean Gary Bowen talks with advisory board members during the School's official campaign launch.

Surrounded by generosity

Dear Friends,

Every day and everywhere within our School, I am reminded of how important our donors are and how deeply their gifts support our work.

I enter the School through the Howard W. Odum Reception Lobby and pass the Jordan Institute for Families, where a group of students are discussing the needs they see in foster care programs. Beyond the students, doors open onto a courtyard ringed by bricks, each engraved with the name of a School donor when our building opened in 1995.

As our students head for class, they enter classrooms named for Dean and Linnea Smith, Veda Lyden and Martha Beach. They use new digital technology, provided last year by Robert and Meghan Cioffi, to collaborate with peers and to access data from around the world. Later, they'll share ideas over textbooks and laptop computers in the Kathleen Price Bryan Learning Resource Center while preparing for exams.

Meanwhile, I'm meeting with faculty members and doctoral students in the Paul C. Barton Conference Room. Several of our faculty have endowed professorships — the L. Richardson Preyer Distinguished Chair for Strengthening Families, the Berg-Beach Distinguished Professor of Community Social Work, the Frank A. Daniels Professor of Human Services Policy Information and others — which enable them to focus on areas of social work with tremendous impact on the communities in our state.

Later, several dozen students and faculty members will meet in this room for today's Tate Talk, which is sponsored through donations in honor of John A. Tate Jr. This seminar series features leading experts who provide in-depth insight into social work research.

How will we use this research and knowledge? We'll serve our state ... and beyond. The Armfield-Reeves Fund has supported research and service projects that strengthen our outreach mission. It's a perfect example of how donations to the School of Social Work multiply the impact of what we do.

We will always value our donors as essential partners in our mission. Thank you for all that you have done — and continue to do — to ensure that we are prepared to serve those who need help most.

With warm wishes,

The signature of Gary L. Bowen, written in cursive black ink.

Gary L. Bowen
Dean and Kenan Distinguished Professor

Contact

SPRING 2018

Contact, the alumni magazine of the UNC School of Social Work, is published in spring and fall.

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OUR MISSION

The mission of the School of Social Work is to expand knowledge regarding social problems and programs, to educate social workers for advanced practice and to provide leadership in the development of socially and economically just policies and programs that strengthen individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

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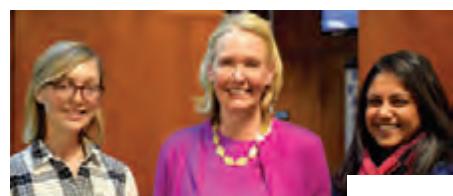
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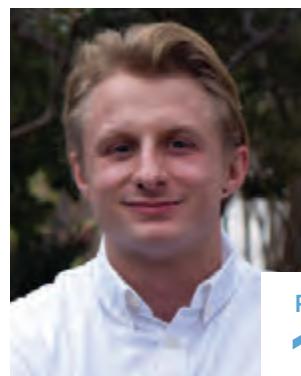
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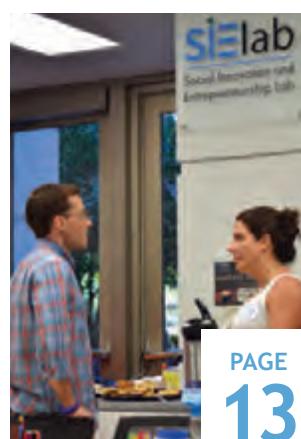
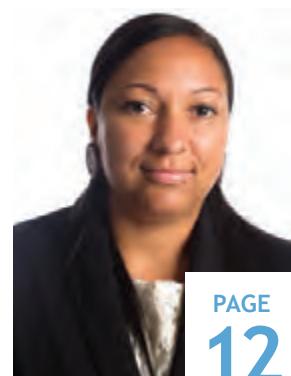
PAGE
10



PAGE
11



PAGE
12



PAGE
13



PAGE
14



WHAT DOES MY SCHOLARSHIP MEAN TO ME?



JOHN BAILEY, SECOND YEAR, WINSTON-SALEM DISTANCE EDUCATION PROGRAM

Tannenbaum Student Support Scholarship

Being selected for the Tannenbaum scholarship was a complete surprise. For so long, I had accepted that I was going to have to rely on student loans for my tuition and for other expenses, including to help pay for my mortgage and car loan. However, receiving this scholarship relieved much of my financial burden and gave me much needed peace of mind.

I also no longer had to worry about how I was going to manage class work and a full-time job. Instead, I was given the breathing room I needed to fully immerse myself into the MSW program, including into my field placement with Guilford County public schools, where I've spent the past year as a school social worker. I really wanted to intern with the school system because I believe I have a responsibility to make sure that the next generation of children has the best chance possible to make the most of themselves, despite any external factors that may work against them.

I learned so much from my experience within the school system. Much of my focus was on developing activities

that were fun and that strengthened the social skills of K-5 students. My field supervisor and I created a range of social groups and allowed students to choose the activities that most interested them, such as learning how to build rocket ships, to play chess and other board games, or learning about meditation, yoga and dance. These groups also provided students a chance to break out of their normal routines and to interact with their peers in new and exciting ways outside of the regular classroom.

Because of the support from the Tannenbaum scholarship, I was able to put in the additional time needed outside of my own class work and the regular duties of my internship to help create valuable experiences for these children, which was so rewarding.

Although I am interested in pursuing school social work after graduation, I am also a proud member of the U.S. Air Force, and I continue to think about how I can serve my country for as long as possible. Because the veteran population is still so underserved, I have considered becoming an active duty social worker or working with the VA. As a member of the military, I feel obliged to help my fellow veterans as much as I can.

Ultimately, my hope is to be a blessing to others. I'm thankful that social work has given me the vehicle to help, and I'm thankful that the Tannenbaum scholarship provided me with the financial resources I needed to pursue a career I care deeply about. ♦

SYDNEY IDZIKOWSKI, FINAL YEAR, ADVANCED STANDING

Joanna Finkelstein Gorham Scholarship

Receiving the Joanna Finkelstein Gorham Scholarship left me feeling reassured, proud and a little nervous. I was reassured that my accomplishments and skills acquired thus far had helped me to become an exemplary candidate for the UNC School of Social Work and for the social work profession as a whole. I felt proud of all the hard work and commitment I had dedicated to education and practice to progress social justice. And I was nervous because the news that I had received a scholarship meant that I would be able to attend one of the best social work programs in the country.

Coming to UNC meant uprooting everything I had established during my five years in Asheville, both as a student and as a professional. Moving to Chapel Hill required giving up all of my stability: my job, my partner, my connections, my familiarity. The other school where I was accepted would have allowed me to work part-time at my job and continue to live with my partner. The other school was less expensive. I struggled with my decision for a long time. Ultimately, it was the Joanna Finkelstein Gorham Scholarship that made it possible for me to leave behind what I knew to pursue my master's degree at UNC-Chapel Hill. I don't regret the decision.

UNC-Chapel Hill has allowed me to further define my interests. As a macro level social worker, I am passionate about equitable community and economic development as it pertains to affordable housing and homelessness and building wealth among households with low-to-moderate incomes. I have also enhanced my policy analysis skills through my field placement with the North Carolina Justice Center, where I've been examining how child Medicaid in North Carolina can improve child health priorities through social determinants of health. Next, I will explore how public investments in the state have helped or hindered health outcomes.



I think local government could be a great platform to take on some of these issues and hope to find employment in the public sector after I graduate. Social workers are vastly underrepresented in government and in public policy work. I hope to change that.

I am incredibly lucky to have been awarded the Joanna Finkelstein Gorham Scholarship. This investment in my education is one of many motivating factors that enable me to become an effective social worker. ♦



LAVOYA WOODS-DIONNE, FIRST YEAR, FULL-TIME

Armfield Scholarship

My journey to social work is a personal testimony of ambition and connection in the face of trauma. I am a product of the sacrifices of my mother whose dedication to my education meant putting hers on hold. When she passed, I became the family caregiver, a role that left little time for grieving, brought new challenges and forced me to shift my professional goals.

After years of teaching and dreaming that I would one day earn a graduate degree, I decided in 2017 to leave my native New York City home and move to North Carolina to pursue my MSW degree at the UNC School of Social Work. My transition back to the classroom was born, in part, out of a necessity to heal. Thus, for me, the Armfield Scholarship was more than the realization of a lifelong goal; it was a gateway to healing.

I've watched my family and families like mine struggle with mental health as a result of the lived-experience of being "othered" in this country. Through my study and work at UNC, I am deepening my understanding of the needs of families who may be oppressed and living with trauma, including the specific psychic challenges innate in the African American experience.

In New York, my family was held together by therapists, psychiatrists and social workers who educated us and grounded us in reality. As a first-year student at the School of Social Work, I have also watched families struggle, both physically and emotionally. I have worked intimately with refugees new to the Triangle and have been deeply moved to hold the hands of mothers who escaped war-torn countries to build a better life for their children here.

I've led community groups and designed training to help professionals serve with accountability and competence. As a volunteer at the local Piedmont Health Clinic, I am learning the diversity and depth of community practice. UNC is preparing me to serve the community as a family therapist and eventually, as a program director.

Because of the Armfield Scholarship, I've been given the freedom to pursue a mental health career that I was unsure was possible. Through the generosity of our donors, I am shifting my family's legacy of education and progress. I do this work for my late mother, for my daughter and for the children for whom I will serve as a humble ancestor.

As a veteran, a first-generation college student, a woman of color, a mother of brown girls and a partner of someone with mental illness, I have faced many obstacles and overcome them all. I've succeeded because of the values that I embrace: a commitment to self-reflection and growth, the compassion and work ethic of my mother and the belief in the innate dignity we all possess. These values are at the heart of social work and will propel me as I move forward in my career. ♦

AUSTYN HOLLEMAN, SECOND YEAR DUAL DEGREE, SOCIAL WORK AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Alumni Development Scholarship

Social work allows me to use my skills and my time to empower others and make a difference. I chose to study social work because I wanted to get more out of my graduate education than just new theories or terminology and a diploma. UNC's School of Social Work has succeeded in giving me more. Through the last year and a half, I have had my values and beliefs challenged, changed and confirmed. I have explored aspects of my identity that I had never thought to question and have had my eyes opened to new identities in others. I have learned how to support people and communities from a strengths-based perspective and how to critically analyze the systems that dictate our everyday lives. My experience in this program has made me a better citizen, advocate and agent of change in my role as a public health social worker.

As a full-time dual degree student, I have little time to commit to paid work. Without the assistance of aid and scholarship money, I would have been unable to finance my graduate education. Receiving the Alumni Development Scholarship gave me the flexibility to explore and foster new interests, which completely changed the direction of my graduate education and future work in the field.

This year, I became a certified childbirth doula — something I had been wanting to do for years but never had the time to pursue. As a doula volunteer with UNC, I am not monetarily compensated, but I do help women who have the highest need for support during labor. Being a doula allows me to use both my social work and public health skills in a meaningful way. Every interaction with a client stretches me to become a better supporter and advocate, giving me valuable insight that will help me inform programming and policy in my future career.

After graduation, I hope to use my social work lens and my public health knowledge to create and manage programs focused on improving birth outcomes for mothers and infants of marginalized groups in the United States. Giving back to my community is important, and I hope to do so by empowering mothers and giving them needed support to ensure that their babies have the healthiest start to life possible. Thank you for supporting my future in the field and work to improve maternal and infant health outcomes in our community. I hope to pay it forward one day. ♦



FOR ALL KIND

THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

By Mary Beth Hernandez, Associate Dean for Advancement

This year marks not only the 98th anniversary of the founding of the UNC School of Social Work but also the launching of the largest-ever fundraising campaign in the School's history. Our goal is ambitious, but it is achievable: raise \$23 million by Dec. 31, 2022.

The official kickoff of our five-year "Campaign for Carolina" began in April and, thanks to some of our long-time generous donors, our School is already nearly a third closer to its goal, having secured almost \$7 million in funding so far. Over the next few years, I am confident that our School community will rise to the occasion and commit to the hard work that will be needed to help us fulfill our greatest potential and to ensure our financial success.

I know this because for nearly a century, our social work students, faculty and alumni have refused to sit on the sidelines. Their determination to make a difference cannot be contained within the classrooms and offices of the Tate-Turner-Kuralt Building or within the stone walls of UNC's campus. Rather, they are on the ground in public and private agencies far and wide, including schools, hospitals, prisons and departments of social services. Every day, they are partnering with individuals, families and communities, asking humbly what they can do to help improve the human condition in North Carolina, across this country and around the world.

Our social work alumni alone are more than 5,000 strong and use their extraordinary talents to deliver vital direct services to people in need, including those experiencing hunger, homelessness, mental illness and addiction. Along with our School's faculty, many of our graduates also dedicate their lives to strengthening the evidence behind social research. Every study they pursue aims to find innovative solutions to complicated social problems, such as the prevention and elimination of childhood trauma, poverty, substance abuse and domestic violence. Ultimately, the goal is the same: to make this world a better place for all.

As a School, we have an enormous responsibility to prepare these future social work practitioners and researchers for this incredibly difficult task. And for years, we've done just that. Our recent ranking as the nation's fifth-ranked School of Social Work and the country's third-ranked public institution demonstrates our sense of excellence and commitment to this profession. But to do the kind of transformative work our faculty and students are still eager to tackle, we need more resources.

With your help, we will expand our impact in this state and beyond for the next 100 years to come.

CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

Meghan Cioffi	Sam Niegelsky
Louise Coggins	Linda Perry
Jill Gammon	Jane Pope
Prudence Meehan	Linnea Smith
Pansy Morton	John Tate

 Campaign launch, April 26, 2018

RAISED
\$6,710,000

ALUMNI DONORS
I,126

as of 7/9/18

GOAL
\$23
MILLION



The Campaign for Carolina offers us a way forward. With your generous gifts, we will:

- Strengthen program and academic support for our MSW and Ph.D. students to ensure our graduates are highly prepared and skilled to serve this state and beyond.
- Recruit and retain award-winning faculty, who teach, inspire and mentor our future social workers in a complex era.
- Deepen our efforts to support community-level changes for marginalized populations by direct partnership with agencies and organizations in North Carolina and beyond.

I am so thankful to have Louise Coggins, chair of our School's board of advisors, and Prudence Meehan, board member and longtime School supporter, as co-chairs of this historic fundraising endeavor. Under their leadership, I am confident that investments in our students, faculty and programs will thrive.

Campaign for Carolina is our moment and yours to champion and support the UNC School of Social Work. With your help, we will expand our impact in this state and beyond for the next 100 years to come. ♦



Campaign co-chairs Prudence Meehan and Louise Coggins

To learn more about the School of Social Work's funding priorities and plans as part of the Campaign for Carolina, go to:

campaign.unc.edu/school/school-social-work

F O R
A L L
K I N D

the CAMPAIGN for CAROLINA

One family's generation of giving

Tates have profound impact on the UNC School of Social Work

By Susan White

Perhaps no one in the nearly 100-year history of the UNC School of Social Work has had more of an impact on the physical and academic growth of the School or contributed as much as the late John A. "Jack" Tate and his family.

The Tate family's legacy of philanthropy can be found throughout the School, including in the five-story brick and concrete structure where MSW and Ph.D. students have earned their degrees since the Tate-Turner-Kuralt Building opened its doors in 1995. Dedicated a year later, the building bears the names of the men responsible for its construction: the late Jack Tate of Charlotte, a retired banking executive, civic leader and former chairman of the UNC Board of Trustees and the School's Board of Advisors; the late John Turner, former School dean and visionary who launched the School's path toward national prominence; and the late journalist Charles Kuralt, the son of a social worker, who promoted the value of the profession.

Around the time that the School was built, the senior Tate also helped create the John A. Tate Distinguished Professorship for Children in Need — among the School's first endowed chairs. Tate helped raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for the professorship and believed the position was critical to the School's growing research program.

He also hoped it would attract a national scholar whose work focused on at-risk children and families, issues Tate had championed throughout his career. The School found just that in Mark W. Fraser, a renowned, award-winning social scientist focused on the research of risk and resilience, child behavior and child and family services. Fraser's work raised the School of Social Work's profile as an international leader in intervention research.

Growth in the professorship fund led to the creation of the John A. Tate Early Career Scholars for Children in Need. Awarded last year to Lisa Zerden and Sarah Verbiest, this program recognizes junior faculty members for their high level of productivity in teaching, publishing, research and service in support of children, youth and families.

In recent years, the School added the Tate Talks lecture series, which is supported by the activities of the Tate chair and focuses on emerging ideas and concepts in social work and social welfare. The senior Tate inspired the popular speaker

series largely because of his reputation for "thinking big" and for his fierce advocacy for social change, said Fraser, who created the series.

"[Jack Tate] was a man of enormous vision and passion," he said. "He was the most articulate, insistent and audacious advocate for social work in the nation, and we benefited from that more than any other school."

Ten years after his death, Tate's influence is still felt today. Most recently, his wife Marjorie; children John A. Tate III and Caroline Noojin, and grandchildren Bright and Austin collectively directed a \$50,000 gift to support activities that are consistent with the vision of the Tate chair.

The family's concerns, especially for the plight of fragile families, motivate their charitable decisions, said John Tate, a retired banker and former member of the N.C. Board of

Education. Family members also believe, as Jack Tate did, that social workers are among the state's most invaluable resources. No other profession better prepares its workers to address some of the state's most pressing social issues, including grueling poverty, he added.

"Daddy saw the desperate need for qualified people in the field to help people who were on the cusp," Tate said. "He saw social workers as professionals with the means to understand the plight that poor people faced and with the ability to help them in their struggles ... to not just survive daily but hopefully to begin to spread their wings and reach their potential."

Tate's family continues to invest in the School of Social Work, in part because they remain determined to help "level the playing field" for children. "There's no reason whatsoever that my children should have a better shot at life than children on the other side," Tate said. "When you invest in the School of Social Work, what you are helping to do is to arm professionals in the field to give folks a fair shot at life."

For the family and especially for Tate's grandchildren, giving back to the School also remains very personal, he added.

"We see this investment in the School as a way to honor (Jack Tate's) commitment to families in need across our state. And those of us in following generations hold fast to this commitment as well. The School makes our great state better, and we are grateful to it for its work." ♦

Becoming an advocate

You don't have to be a social worker to make an impact in social work — and Kathryn Heath is living proof.

Heath is a best-selling author, a founding partner at Flynn Heath Holt Leadership and a former senior vice president at First Union, where she directed the First University initiative and created training programs.

Although she didn't study social work, she chose to earn degrees in academic disciplines that share the same values, with a B.A. in education, a M.A. in counseling and a Ph.D. in child development and family relations. While working at First Union, she also served on the North Carolina Social Services Commission.

Her interest in social work has transformed into advocacy. Heath has served on the UNC School of Social Work advisory board for many years. She and her husband, Thomas Webb, established the Heath-Webb Fund, helping students who are pursuing doctoral degrees in social work.

This year, Heath presented the Bobby Boyd Leadership Lecture, sharing her expertise in leadership development with students, alumni, faculty and staff from the School and throughout UNC-Chapel Hill.

As an advocate for the UNC School of Social Work and its students, Heath is bringing her own unique knowledge and



Kathryn Heath, Ph.D., talks with students Anna Parisi and Anjalee Sharma following the Bobby Boyd Leadership Lecture in April 2018. Parisi and Sharma, who are recipients of Heath-Webb scholarships, each received a copy of Heath's best-selling book, "Break Your Own Rules."

skills to help strengthen the profession of social work in North Carolina and nationally. ♦

Remembering Elizabeth Cloud Monroe

Elizabeth Cloud Monroe helped hundreds of children navigate the challenges of their young lives in her career as a school social worker. Before her death in November 2017, she extended this legacy of caring with a bequest of over \$260,000 to the University of North Carolina School of Social Work, helping thousands of students, as well as the children and adults those students will serve throughout their own careers.

Monroe grew up in Winston-Salem and explored several career paths before finding her calling in social work. She earned a degree in art history, worked as a fashion buyer in New York City, studied computer programming and traveled around the world (China became a favorite destination) before enrolling at UNC School of Social Work, where she completed her Master of Social Work degree in 1991.

Family members say that Monroe's degree in social work opened her eyes and heart to serving youth. After graduation, she worked as a clinical child therapist on the trauma team at CenterPoint Human Services, which provides treatment for persons with developmental disabilities, mental health disorders or substance abuse challenges in Winston-Salem and surrounding counties.

Monroe continued her career in the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School System, where she was assigned to Parkland High School and North Forsyth High School. She worked as a school social worker for 25 years. She also helped support the St. Joseph's Indian School in South Dakota, which provides residential and educational services for Lakota Sioux children and youth in need.

Her generous spirit was reflected in her support of her church and of performing arts organizations in her community as well as in her lifelong commitment to social work.

She is survived by her brothers, Thomas Guy Monroe of Alaska and John Monroe Jr. of California. She was the daughter of John H. and Elizabeth "Boo" Monroe. ♦



Honoring a profession his mother loved

Melvarene Johnson Adair Scholarship Fund provides vital lifeline

By Susan White

Ken Howard understands the challenges many graduate students face, especially those trying to figure out how to afford both school and the responsibilities of caring for a family at the same time. He can relate because, had it not been for a scholarship through the School of Social Work, his own mother likely would not have been able to pursue her master's degree at UNC.

Enrolled in the School's former part-time program in Wilmington, Melvarene Johnson, MSW '76, took social work classes in the evening and worked during the day as assistant director of New Hanover County Social

Services. As a young social services worker in some of the state's most rural counties, Johnson had witnessed many families struggling in poverty. She returned to school to strengthen her skills so that she could further help people in need.

However, completing her final year of study required a financial risk of her own: a move to Chapel Hill to take classes on campus, where her sons, Ken and Thomas, were already enrolled.

"Seeing what my mother went through at the time, including having to take a leave of absence from her job and going back to school as a single parent with two children already in college, was eye-opening," Howard recalled of his late mother, who died in 2012.

INSPIRED TO GIVE BACK

His mother's accomplishments and the challenges she faced to achieve them inspired Howard and his family to establish the School's Melvarene Johnson Adair Scholarship Fund in 2006.

"We wanted to honor her for all the things she had done for us, and we wanted to help other students who can't afford to quit their jobs and live in Chapel Hill and pay tuition," said Howard, a Raleigh resident and the director of the N.C. Museum of History.

The scholarship fund has grown to be a vital lifeline for MSW students who demonstrate financial need and are in good academic standing. Howard's family launched the fund with an initial \$100,000 gift. The amount flourished over the years, thanks in part to a significant donation from Howard's

mother in 2008. More recently, Howard's family contributed an additional \$100,000 to the fund.

DONOR SUPPORT CONTRIBUTES TO STUDENT SUCCESS

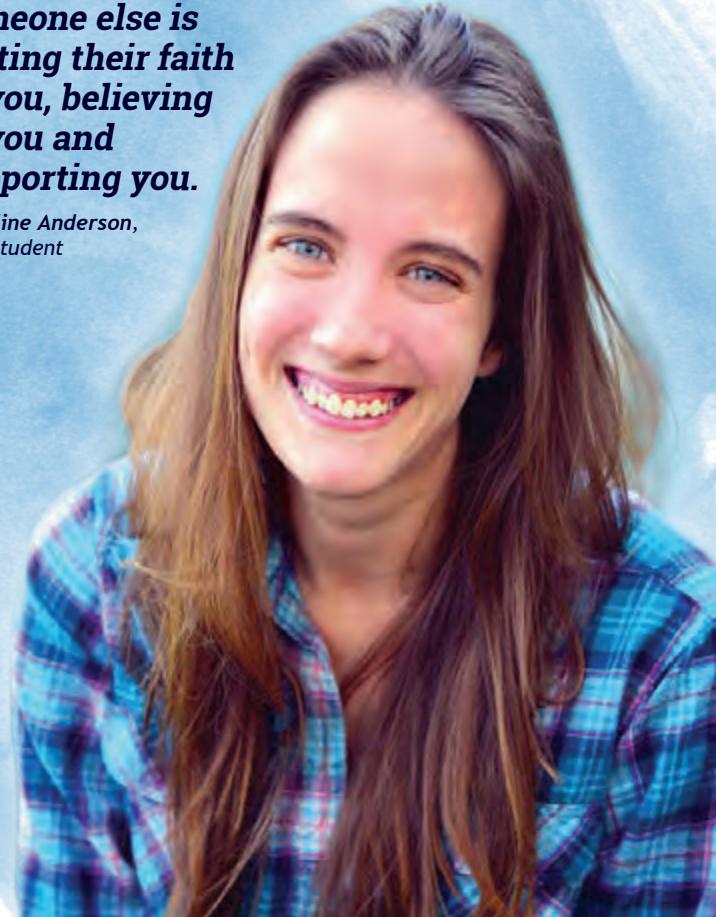
MSW student Madeline Anderson is among those who have benefited from the Howard family's generosity. The Adair scholarship gave Anderson the freedom to focus on her school work and pursue her educational goals. Such donor support is often vital to a student's success, she said.

"Donor support provides so much opportunity for those who believe higher education to be unattainable without immense personal sacrifice," she said.

Howard and his family remain committed to supporting students like Anderson. After all, UNC is producing exactly what the world needs more of — social workers. "Here we are the richest country in the world, and we have so many kids living below poverty line and not sure where their next meal is going to come from," Howard said. "Somebody has got to work on those things, and that's why I think the School is so important." ♦

By having donor support, there is a constant reminder that someone else is putting their faith in you, believing in you and supporting you.

*Madeline Anderson,
MSW student*



Excellence recognized

Carlton-LaNey and Holleman win NASW-NC awards

By Susan White

Two of the School of Social Work's own were honored this year by the National Association of Social Workers North Carolina chapter (NASW-NC) for their outstanding leadership in the profession.

In January, Iris Carlton-LaNey, the Berg-Beach Distinguished Professor for Community Social Work, was named the 2018 Social Worker of the Year, an award given annually to a social work professional who has demonstrated commendable social work practice and involvement with NASW and with other professional, civic and community organizations.

Her scholarly and practice efforts have made an enormous impact on professional and client communities ... through the work of the thousands of students she has taught.

Gary Bowen, UNC School of Social Work Dean

In addition, alumnus Chase Holleman, MSW '17, was selected as the 2018 recipient for the Myrna Miller Wellons Advocate of the Year Award. This award, also given annually by NASW-NC, recognizes individuals who have demonstrated a passion for advocating for the needs of the social work profession and who have served as a champion for change in public policy to benefit the social work profession and clients.

Both Carlton-LaNey and Holleman have been recognized previously by the state chapter for their service. In 2015, Carlton-LaNey was selected as an NASW Social Work Pioneer, the profession's highest honor. A year later, Holleman received the Toby Brown Award for Bachelor of Social Work students, which honors graduating BSW students who demonstrate outstanding academic work and accomplishments in the field of social work.

AN EDUCATOR AND MENTOR

Carlton-LaNey has spent much of her 40-year career educating and mentoring the next generation of social workers, challenging them to think critically about oppression, institutionalized racism,

Chase Holleman, MSW '17

microaggressions, racism and privilege.

"Dr. Carlton-LaNey is a nationally renowned scholar in working to promote social and racial justice in North Carolina and beyond," praised UNC School of Social Work Dean Gary Bowen. "Her scholarly and practice efforts have made an enormous impact on professional and client communities — both directly and indirectly through the work of the thousands of students she has taught."

Carlton-LaNey said she was "incredibly honored" that the NASW chapter chose to recognize an academic for such a prestigious statewide award. "In doing so, they are acknowledging the immutable link between social work education, advocacy and future professional performance," she said.

A LEADER IN THE RECOVERY COMMUNITY

A leader in the recovery community and founder of the Guilford County Naloxone Task Force, Holleman was tapped for the advocacy award for his ongoing efforts to "fight against stigma and increase access to medical care for anyone impacted from the opioid epidemic."

This award also reminds me to thank God for the advocates who made a difference in my life and made it possible for me to live and to grow into a person who can pay it forward.

Chase Holleman, MSW '17

"His passion has helped improve the lives of many in his community through his work and personal advocacy," NASW-NC officials said.

A rapid response team navigator for Guilford County, Holleman said the NASW-NC award proves that his work is important. "I ... find refuge in the knowledge that a group of people that I have great deal of respect for believe that I am doing a good job," he said. "This award also reminds me to thank God for the advocates who made a difference in my life and made it possible for me to live and to grow into a person who can pay it forward." ♦



Our Research: Changing Lives Locally, Nationally, Globally

UNC School of Social Work Research Center & Program Areas



521 Faculty Publications

 **2,400+ Participants**

Clinical Lecture Series:
Sharing research to improve practice and lives

 **584 Faculty Presentations**

33 Current Projects

♦ All 100 NC Counties ♦ 25 States ♦ 13 Countries



By Diane Wyant
Based on 2015-18 data

Francis earns national recognition as research scholar

By Susan White

As a former foster care worker in one of North Carolina's poorest counties, Annie Francis (MSW/MPA '11) has long been interested in fixing what she considers critical gaps within the child welfare system. With support from one of the most prestigious scholarship programs in the country, she is one step closer to her goal of improving the health and well-being of children in foster care.



Francis, a second-year doctoral student, was selected last fall as a Health Policy Research Scholar, joining a highly selective national leadership program funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The scholarship program helps support students from underrepresented populations and disadvantaged backgrounds, especially those whose ethnicity, socioeconomic status, ability and other factors enable them to bring unique and diverse perspectives to their research. Each scholar receives a stipend (up to \$30,000 annually, for up to four years of study), is eligible for a dissertation support grant and participates in a national leadership institute.

The goal of the program is to teach these scholars to use their discipline-based research training to "build a culture of health" that ensures that all individuals have the chance to thrive and flourish. For Francis, a member of the Haliwa-Saponi Tribe, strengthening support for the American Indian community is vitally important.

As a health policy scholar, she will examine how the involvement of American Indian children in the child welfare system influences their lifelong development.

"I'm interested in helping to develop a good baseline for how North Carolina is actually measuring up against this policy that is designed to have an impact on well-being," Francis said. "I think that data is necessary for ongoing program improvement and to assess how compliance has influenced outcomes for children in the system." ♦

Social innovation and entrepreneurship: the next frontier for social work

In only three years, the Social Innovation & Entrepreneurship (SIE) program at the UNC School of Social Work has built a reputation for providing students and community leaders with a fresh and inspiring look at how social work can impact the world in new ways.

Students who participate in SIE activities learn to consult with organizations on policy issues, to develop and launch social ventures, and to collaborate with both nonprofit and for-profit entities in addressing social problems.

It's new territory for many social workers, but it's exactly where social work needs to be, according to SIE program manager Christina Hill Coillot: "Social work belongs at the table. We know people, we know systems – people and systems drive innovation."

SUPPORT FOR A SOCIAL WORK START-UP

Like many social innovation start-ups, SIE began with an "incubator" stage, supported by funding from the Kenan Charitable Trust. SIE was one of the first UNC-Chapel Hill departments to receive funding for social innovation from the Trust, through an initiative led by the Campus Y's CUBE Social Innovation Incubator.

With that funding, SIE was able to open an office at American Underground, a start-up hub in Durham that houses nearly 270 companies and organizations (including 30 social start-ups). Two MSW students, Beth Lowder (MSW '17) and Nora Spencer (MSW '17) operated this office as Social Innovation Fellows. They worked with research specialist/instructor Sarah Marsh to identify appropriate projects for the program and network with social innovation colleagues in the

American Underground complex. Gary Nelson, founder of SIE and Thomas Wiese Lambeth Distinguished Chair in Public Policy for the School, served as director, and the program operated within the Jordan Institute for Families.

We are challenged to think differently about how to solve the complex problems we face. We are called to innovate and be more entrepreneurial in all sectors – public, private and nonprofit. Social workers can and will be part of the change that is happening all around us.

Gary Nelson, Founder, SIE

FROM INCUBATION TO INNOVATION

SIE continued to grow in its third year. Its operations expanded to newly-renovated space, called the SIE Lab, within the Jordan Institute for Families in the Tate-Turner-Kuralt Building at UNC-Chapel Hill. Lowder and Spencer, now alumni, continued their involvement with SIE – Lowder began working as a public service specialist for SIE, and Spencer led workshops for SIE while launching her own nonprofit organization, Hope Renovations. Coillot joined the team as SIE's first full-time manager, bringing experience as both a business owner and a social worker.

SIE named its first Social Entrepreneur in Residence in 2018. Veronica Creech (MSW '98) drew upon her experience as

chief programs officer for EveryoneOn (which provides low-wealth families with access to the internet) and as senior director for global partnership outreach and engagement with First Book (which provides books and educational resources to programs and schools serving low-wealth families) to help MSW students at UNC-Chapel Hill learn about social innovation and entrepreneurship. Soon after her residency with SIE, Creech was named economic development manager for the City of Raleigh, offering students a unique example of how a social work career can evolve.

A GROWING COMMUNITY

Although SIE is one of several programs dedicated to social innovation and entrepreneurship at UNC-Chapel Hill, it is the only one with social work at its core.

SIE team members collaborate with innovators across campus through The Cube at Campus Y, through Innovate Carolina and through other entrepreneurship programs. The SIE Lab provides support and resources (including coworking space) for students to design, implement, replicate and scale new approaches to solving complex social problems.

The SIE Lab also houses the NC Data Partnership for Social and Health Innovation, helping to ensure that the innovations it generates are based on evidence. ♦

Professor Gary Nelson (center), the School's director of social innovation and entrepreneurship, Ann Oshel with Alliance Behavioral Health Managed Care Organization and Matt Anderson with the N.C. Children's Home Society discuss the day's agenda for the SIE Lab's first advisory board planning retreat, which was hosted in June.





Carmen Crosby, Ph.D. '14, right, delivered the Frank Daniels Endowed Lecture at the School of Social Work in March. Crosby is an accomplished interventionist specializing in clinical practice, social equity and cultural diversity, health inequity, victimization, and recovery. Also pictured is clinical associate professor Debbie Barrett, who organizes the School's clinical lecture series events.

1970s

Samuel Kornegay, MSW '72, of Charlotte, died on March 21, 2018.

Robin Bilazarian, MSW '78, is an expert in emotional freedom techniques, also called "tapping." Bilazarian, who has published a book on the technique and on standard stress management, now trains therapists across the country via universities and Pesi Continuing Education.

Phyllis Hines Latta, MSW '78, died on Oct. 20, 2017, at Hospice of High Point.

1980s

Ray Vance Williams Jr., MSW '83, died on Nov. 1, 2017, at the Lower Cape Fear Hospice LifeCare Center in Wilmington.

Catherine Ingold Lawrence, MSW '85, died on Jan. 3, 2018.

1990s

Kathleen P. Landers, MSW '94, is a psychotherapist and the founder and executive director of Sequence Counseling and Consulting Services, a multi-disciplinary private practice in the Greater Washington Metropolitan area.

Kristen Howell, MSW '97, was featured in an article in The Cross Timbers Gazette in Denton County, Texas, about her role as the new chief executive officer of the Children's Advocacy Center of Denton County, Texas.

Bobby Cagle, MSW '98, is now serving as the director of the Division of Children and Family Services for Los Angeles County, Calif. Cagle joined the department after having served as the director of the Georgia Division of Family and Children's Services for the last several years.

Michell Tollinchi-Michel, MSW '98, was appointed assistant vice president for student transitions in the Division of Student Life at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y. Tollinchi-Michel is

the former associate dean for academic enrichment and community initiatives at Barnard College, Columbia University, in New York. In her 10-year career at Barnard, Tollinchi-Michel held leadership positions in student life administration that encompassed co-curricular and academic support programs.

2000s

Roger F. Suclupe, MSW '02, was named MSW part-time program coordinator for UNC Charlotte's School of Social Work. In addition, Suclupe had a manuscript accepted for publication to the Journal of Teaching in Social Work and was invited to present at the Latino Social Workers Organization Conference in March in Seattle, Wash.

Summer Woodside, MSW '03, filed for a second term with the Scotland County Board of Education. Woodside, who currently serves as chair of the board, is an assistant professor of social work at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

Claire K. Robbins, MSW '04, was selected to be the keynote speaker for the 2018 NASW Virginia chapter's annual conference. Robbins is an assistant professor of higher education at Virginia Polytechnical Institute and State University.

Danielle Swick, Ph.D. '07, received a promotion to the rank of associate professor with permanent tenure in UNC-Greensboro's department of social work.

Eric Garland, Ph.D. '09, was featured in the NPR Utah public radio broadcast, "All pain is in the brain." Can opioid use be avoided?" Garland is the director of the Center on Mindfulness and Integrative Health Intervention Development and the associate dean for research at the University of Utah College of Social Work.

Mia Ives-Rublee, MSW '09, was featured in a magazine spread for Glamour's 2017 Women of the Year issue. Ives-Rublee was among the women honored for organizing last year's Women's March in Washington, D.C. Ives-Rublee accepted the award on behalf of her Women's March colleagues during the magazine's awards ceremony in New York City on Nov. 13. Ives-Rublee was also featured in a Huffington Post article, "Women's March Organizer Reflects on 2017 and Next Steps" and in FOX8 and WTVA news reports, "Local Woman Given 'Woman of the Year' Award by Glamour Magazine."

2010s

Stephanie Washington Friend, MSW '10, died on Dec. 9, 2017.

April Parker, MSW '11, was selected to participate in the 2017-2018 Leadership DHHS class, which is sponsored by the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services. The leadership program targets employees who are working to effect positive change in DHHS and in the lives of North Carolinians. Parker is a clinical social worker with the geriatric service unit at DHHS.

Carrie Pettus-Davis, Ph.D. '11, was featured in the KPLR-TV story, "New initiative being spearheaded to reform criminal justice system to help felons gain employment." Pettus-Davis, an assistant professor at the Brown School

of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis, will join Florida State University's (FSU) social work faculty in the summer of 2018. She is a leading expert in criminal justice and in the decarceration of America's prisons and jails. At FSU, she will lead a research initiative focused on the re-entry of incarcerated persons into communities.

Kibbee Newsome, MSW '12, is employed as an intensive outpatient program social worker with a substance use disorders clinic in the Department of Veteran Affairs in Raleigh.

Jessica Lambert Ward, MSW '12, was selected to participate in the North Carolina Native Leadership Institute. The institute is the only culturally tailored leadership training program in the state for current and emerging Native leaders who are interested in sharpening their leadership skills, expanding their networks and fostering unity across all tribes and Indian communities in North Carolina. Ward serves as a counselor and coordinator for academic appeals with UNC's Office of Undergraduate Retention.

Charrise Hart, MSW '13, was featured in "Heart of the Matter," in WILMA magazine, which highlights southeastern North Carolina's most successful women. Hart currently serves as executive director of the YWCA Lower Cape Fear.

Sara Caitlin Bearden, MSW '14, is a research project manager with the UNC School of Medicine.

Marissa Holsten, MSW '14, and **Tess Cialdini**, MSW '17, were both featured in an article in The Indy about Carolina Outreach's innovative approach to mental health care. Holsten is director of the program's Behavioral Health Urgent Care. Cialdini is a manager with Carolina Outreach and

Andrew Heil, MSW '15, presented at the NASW-NC Annual Fall Conference in Asheville, N.C. His presentation was titled "Treating PTSD in Individuals with SPMI using Cognitive Processing Therapy: A Single-System Design."

Melinda Manning, MSW '15, director of UNC Hospitals' Beacon Program, published an article in the American Medical Association's Journal of Ethics. The article was titled, "What if a

Resident or Medical Student is Raped? Hospitals' and Academic Medical Centers' Title IX Obligations."

Monique Tuset, MSW '15, led a nine-week financial class at The Cov Church International in Durham, N.C. The class taught participants how to manage their money and build wealth. Tuset is coordinator of student affairs at the UNC School of Social Work.

Kathryn Falbo-Woodson, MSW '16, serves as president of the North Carolina chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

Donald McDonald, MSW '16, was named as executive director of Addiction Professionals of North Carolina.

Olivia Bass, MSW '17, and **Nora Spencer**, MSW '17, co-authored the article, "Disrupting the status quo through innovation: Tools for MCH professionals," in the newsletter Pulse, which is published bi-monthly by the Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs.

Nora Spencer, MSW '17, joined the team of the Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship (SIE) Lab, part of the Jordan Institute for Families at the UNC School of Social Work. Spencer is working part-time with the lab to assist in the development of an innovation mentor network, among other things. In addition, she launched her own social enterprise, Hope Renovations, which focuses on providing workforce training for women. Hope Renovations will offer women the opportunity to learn construction skills while renovating houses for the aging.

Alumni, do you have news to share?

Email updates to unc.ssw.communications@unc.edu for use in Contact or in Impact, the School's monthly newsletter.



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GIVING BACK WITH *Gratitude*

By Ashley Benefield, Alumni Council president

Ten years have passed since I earned my MSW degree, and I am so grateful to be a UNC School of Social Work alumna. Every single day, I use what I learned in Chapel Hill.

As a social work professional, I still rely on the School to provide me with up-to-date knowledge through continuing education and the network of colleagues I gained as a student. (And did I mention I'm really proud to be a graduate of one of the nation's best schools of social work?)

This year, I've decided it's time to show my

gratitude in a tangible way. Working with the Alumni Council, I've learned how much the School depends on donations to provide scholarships for MSW students. I was a scholarship student, so I know firsthand how important those scholarships are. (Were you a scholarship student, too?)

I want to help. I want to give back to my School, and I want to help other students, the same way that someone helped me. So I'm making a commitment to donate regularly to the School, so that today's MSW students can have the same support I had 10 years ago.

Will you join me? Most of us can't afford to give thousands of dollars, but I think a lot of us can afford to give \$5 or \$10 or \$25, maybe monthly, maybe once or twice a year. Small gifts add up. Our small gifts can make a big difference for a student trying to decide between buying a textbook and paying the electric bill!

Let's make this commitment together. Let's help provide a new social work student with the same wonderful opportunities that we enjoyed. Let's give back with gratitude!

Ashley Benefield meets Posy, a new friend at UNC PAWS (Peer Assisted Wellness Support), where persons with chronic mental health conditions help train shelter dogs to be emotional support animals. The PAWS program is housed at The Farm at Penny Lane in Chatham County. Ashley and other members of the School's advisory board toured The Farm in April.

Did you know you can pledge a monthly gift online, using your credit card? Here's how:
giving.unc.edu/gift/socialwork