



HARDIN-SIMMONS
UNIVERSITY

RECOGNIZING THE HSU SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM

By: Bridget Cloud

WHAT'S HAPPENING

At the beginning of the year, we met a lot of new faces! Our number of social work students have grown, but our number of seniors was tiny but mighty. Four seniors, to be exact, and labeled "The Fantastic Four"! The theme of this year's Social Work Club was "SOCIAL WORKERS ARE SUPERHEROS". The club wanted to emphasize the strength of social workers and their fight for social injustice within their community.

Our seniors are preparing to graduate, where two will be entering their Master's programs upon graduation, and two will be entering the field with full-time

jobs, as well as completing their state licensure requirements. Our twelve juniors are completing their field placement prerequisites, and learning where their next journey begins for field placements this upcoming year! Our freshman and sophomores are continuing to complete their volunteer hours, become involved in the program, and are preparing to take on Policy and Practice classes in the upcoming semesters.

This group is the epitome of "Superheroes" as we have continued to make big changes in our community and within our program.

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SW CLUB MEETINGS

Our meetings provide beneficial insight, fellowship, and sense of community within the program! With great thanks to our officers, faculty, staff and students, our meetings are always enjoyable. These meetings provide a great space to build relationships and learn more about HSU, the Social Work program, the profession, and community outreach. Of course, our meetings are all about the business for the club, but we also like to have fun and keep it interesting!

We've found a way to ensure all students have an opportunity to attend at least one meeting each semester by rotating between days of the week. One of the six NASW ethical principles is the importance of human relationships, so we practice intentionality by planning strategically to ensure all students have the opportunity to engage and participate.

Upcoming Events

- April 28 – Social Work Banquet
- May 11 – May Term Begins
- June 1 – Summer I Term Begins
- July 6 – Summer II Term Begins

FA21-SP22 Events

- SW Student Orientation FA21 and SP22
- SW Back to School Picnic on Anderson Lawn
- Champions for Children Conference
- Walk to End Alzheimer's SW Team
- Guest Speakers from Betty Hardwick's Crisis Response Team
- Second Annual Veteran's Day Event on Anderson Lawn
- Sigma Beta "No Longer a Bystander Collaboration with RVCC
- NASW-TX Virtual Advocacy Week
- Women's International Empowerment Event
- SW Prom Party
- Social Work Annual Awards and Banquet



Social Work students attending Orientation and winning t-shirt raffles.



CAMPUS OPPORTUNITIES

College is a season of growth in many aspects. We recognize the importance in celebrating milestones, and we help students on campus do the same. This gives us an opportunity to welcome our new students with open arms and to help them thrive!



Pictured (left to right): Stasia Hodge, Amber Guthrie, Kaylin Bouse, Bridget Cloud, Christopher Beavers, & Lauren Stokes.

This year we hosted several exciting events! We had a group of social work students walk and raise money at the Walk to End Alzheimer's Event, we were able to attend our first in-person Champions for Children Conference since COVID-19, volunteered at Winter Lightfest & Western Heritage Day, had guest speakers from Betty Hardwick's Crisis Response Team, and enjoyed a Back to School Picnic on Anderson Lawn where we collaborated with the Pinky Swear Foundation to End Childhood Cancer by creating note cards and bracelets for children in the hospital!



Pictured (left to right): Jade Glisson (& family member), Stasia Hodge, Christopher Beavers, Bridget Cloud, Amy Shelton, & Edna Herschberger.

We once again celebrated our very successful Veteran's Day event in the month of November! Social Work Club officers, staff, and students gathered on Anderson Lawn to recognize our veterans for their service. We also had a special recognition for our senior, Tony Whitted, who also served. Our junior, Ethan Pfrimmer, played *Taps* on his trumpet. John Meier, Mental Health America, and KTXS were also in attendance this year!



Pictured (top to bottom): Tony Whitted, Ethan Pfrimmer.



Pictured (left to right): Bridget Cloud, Professor Milliorn, Kimberly Kelley, Christopher Beavers, & Beth Ferguson.

Each year, Sigma Beta hosts an event to promote humanitarian goals and ideas. This year we collaborated with Kimberly Kelley at the Regional Victim Crisis Center for our *NEW* event: "NO LONGER A BYSTANDER". This event aims to bring awareness to domestic violence,

sexual violence, and abuse. The goal is to continue hosting this event every year and to make it BIG in our community!

Students continue to stay busy during March Madness! Our program provides the students with extensive knowledge, values, and skills surrounding generalist practice through education and participation in advocacy events and more!

SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM

Policy students prepare Advocacy packets and travel to the capitol to speak to our state Representatives about social justice topics they have researched all year. Due to the continuing lingering effects of COVID-19, students participated online in the National Association of Social Workers' (NASW-TX) *Advocacy Week*. This event helps students prepare and better understand the aspects of Macro level social work, while also advocating for topics they are passionate about.

JUNIOR-LEVEL POLICY ACHIEVEMENTS

As part of the Policy II class, junior-level students are to continue to work on their advocacy efforts and write letters to magazine or news editors so as to spread awareness about their chosen policy topic. This year, Jesuye Olabisi, had her letter, "Racial Disparities Persist in Healthcare", published in the *Abilene-Reporter News*! Nice job Jesuye!



RESEARCH/POLICY AWARDS



This year, Lauren Stokes received the Dan Cooper Excellence in Research Award! The recipient must be a graduating senior and a social work major who displayed outstanding achievement in social work research. Lauren spent the year researching the Effects of Support Programs on At-Risk Youth using research and data from her field placement at Communities in Schools (Clack Middle School), as well as through scholastic research.

Highlighting our Junior Policy Students' Advocacy Efforts!

Kaylin Bouse focused on Education & Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse & Trafficking.

Tori Brown focused on Parental Alienation in the Legal System.

Keziah Chacko focused on Adoption Rehoming.

Beth Ferguson focused on OCD & Mental Health Awareness, Education, & Treatment.

Jade Glisson focused on Parental Alienation.

Alyssa Hamilton focused on Mental Wellness for Veterans.

Stasia Hodge focused on Bullying in Schools.

Jesuye Olabisi focused on Racial Disparities in Healthcare.

Calli Pesina focused on the Blurred Lines Between Sex Workers and Sex Trafficking.

Ethan Pfrimmer focused on Utilizing School Social Workers to Aide Minority Students Performance in Public Education.

Kristen Schout-Schumacher focused on Gender Disparities Connected with Domestic Violence & Housing Insecurity.

Trinity Wilson focused on Affordable Child Care.

Our program is intentional in establishing productive and lasting relationships within the surrounding community. This helps us to not only make connections in the community, but to also collaborate in bringing awareness to vulnerable populations!

COMMUNITY ACTION



*Pictured (left to right):
Jaden Hubbard,
Bridget Cloud,
Lauren Stokes,
Triniti Wilson,
Alyssa Hamilton,
Stasia Hodge*

As part of the many events we held this year, we made an effort to collaborate with as many community partners as we could! We collaborated with agencies such as the Alzheimer's Association for the Walk to End Alzheimer's, Betty Hardwick Crisis Response Team as a guest speaker, 2-Ingage for Prom Party, the Regional Victim Crisis Center for "No Longer a Bystander", United Way for the Winter Lightfest, Pinky Swear Foundation for Back to School on the Lawn, Mental Health America and John Meier (Support Services for Veteran Families WCTRF) for Veteran's Day, and MORE!!!

- Every Spring, our students, faculty, and 2-Ingage collaborate to host an event for girls in foster care. We are thankful for those who donated funds, supplies, and time to our event! We are also thankful for receiving a \$500 PAVE Grant from the Junior League this year! Without our community partners, we wouldn't be able to adequately provide such a beautiful event to these young ladies. This year we had many girls from all over join us for this fantastic day! We had fun getting ready, seeing the Six White Horses, touring the HSU campus, and having a photoshoot! It is always a joy to put a smile on these faces and show these girls their worth and beauty.



*Pictured (left to right): Professor Milliorn, Lauren Stokes,
Bridget Cloud, & Kaylin Bouse*



WE SURVIVED ANOTHER YEAR!!

As social work students, we understand the importance of making a positive impact on those around us, even during a very busy year such as the one we had. Our students, faculty, and staff continue to work hard and inspire others not only on our campus, but also in our community. GREAT WORK!!!



THANK YOU SENIORS (FANTASTIC FOUR) FOR YOUR HARD WORK THIS YEAR AND SERVANT HEARTS. YOU ALL ARE ON THE PATH TO SUCCESS AND WILL BE MISSED BY ALL. CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2022!!



NEW CHANGES COMING NEXT YEAR!

BEGINNING IN THE UPCOMING 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR, WE WILL HAVE A NEW MAJOR AND NEW CHANGES TO THE CSWE EPAS 2022!

BE ON THE LOOK OUT!