



# IMPACT

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Spring 2018



SPRING 2018

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# Greetings from the Program Chair

On behalf of the Department of Social Work, I welcome you to Spring 2018 edition of Northwestern Oklahoma State University's Social Work Program newsletter. Spring is always an exciting time for the Department of Social Work with students completing field practicums, honoring professional social workers during social work month, NASW-OK conference attendance, celebrating student achievements, participating in service learning projects, and hosting our annual "Primp for Prom" event where we give away hundreds of free prom dresses to high school students. In this edition we take time to celebrate Levi Sanders as NASW-OK Undergraduate Student of the Year, honor a special alumna, Lacey Vaughan, and applaud our students for their incredible achievements. We are beyond proud of our majors for their acceptance into honor societies and graduate schools, inclusion in leadership institutes, and active participation in meaningful service learning projects. As always, we thank those whose efforts assist us in preparing competent, effective Northwest Oklahoma generalist practice social workers. We are so grateful to our field agency partners, field instructors, adjunct instructors, and Social Work Advisory Board Members for enhancing and improving social services in our region. We look forward to heading to the capitol soon and contributing to our role of advocacy by participating in LEAD: Legislative Education & Action Day. Lastly I would like to express appreciation to NASW-OK, as I was honored and humbled to be named the 2018 Social Worker of the Year.

"Social Workers: Leaders. Advocates. Champions!"  
Dr. Kylene Rehder



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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dr. Kylene Rehder".

## A message from the Field Director

I am thrilled to say this is my second year as the Director of Field Education for the Social Work Department at Northwestern. It has been a fast couple of years and I have jumped right in working with multiple agencies in Northwest Oklahoma and Southern Kansas. Working with these agencies has been an honor and students could not finish without their support.

These past couple of years I have also been devoting much time to our student organization for social work majors the Social Workers Association of Tomorrow, or better known as SWAT. During the past two years we have been able to host Dignity Drives, participate in university events, volunteer for community events and more recently, foster a wooden child to advocate for the prevention of child abuse.

This past year I have also been honored to become the Northwest Branch Chair for the National Association of Social Workers – Oklahoma Chapter and serve on the Board of Directors at Youth and Family Services. This has allowed me to make connections with social workers across the state and within Northwest Oklahoma to demonstrate to my students that networking in the field of social work never stops. I am excited to see what the future brings for the Social Work Department at Northwestern!

Jennifer Pribble, LCSW



**Jennifer Pribble, MSW, LCSW**  
Assistant Professor of Social Work  
Director of Field Education  
Room 110 Enid Campus

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer Pribble MSW, LCSW".

# Sanders named Social Work Student of the Year by NASW-OK

The Department of Social Work at Northwestern Oklahoma State University is thrilled to announce that Levi Sanders, Enid campus Senior, was named the 2018 National Association of Social Workers, Oklahoma (NASW-OK) Undergraduate Student of the Year.

The Undergraduate Student of the Year Award honors a bachelor's level social work student from a Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accredited program. Sanders' selection was based on the ability to demonstrate leadership qualities, contribute to the positive image of a social work program, successful academic performance, and representation the profession's core values. The award ceremony was held at noon at the NASW-OK Annual State Conference on Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup> in Tulsa.

NASW is the largest membership organization of professional social workers in the world and focuses on enhancing the professional growth and development of its members, creating and maintaining professional standards, and advancing sound social policies.

Dr. Kylene Rehder, Chair of the Department of Social Work, said that his recognition is well-deserved. "Levi embodies the ideal qualities of professional social work and we are excited his contributions to service and social justice are being recognized in such a prestigious public way."

"I'm so honored by this award and grateful to Northwestern's Department of Social Work. The social work program has prepared me to become a professional that is ready to make an impact for the better on the world around me," said Sanders.

Sanders is currently completing a practicum with Youth & Family Services of North Central in Enid. He will be graduating in May and attending the University of Kansas to obtain his Master's of Social Work (MSW) degree. Sanders also was selected for a prominent study abroad program at the University of Kansas which will provide him the opportunity to study social work on an international scale in a 13 day journey to Milan and Rome, Italy.



Above: Sanders accepting his award from the Executive Director of NASW-OK, Steven W. Pharris, LCSW, JD.

# Rehder honored as 2018 NASW-OK Social Worker of the Year

Dr. Kylene Rehder, an associate professor, director of the Social Work Program and chair of the Department of Social Work at Northwestern Oklahoma State University, has been named the 2018 Social Worker of the Year by the National Association of Social Workers, Oklahoma Chapter (NASW-OK).

The Social Worker of the Year Award honors a member of NASW who exemplifies the best of the profession's values and achievements through specific accomplishments in the practice of social work. Rehder's selection was based on the ability to demonstrate outstanding leadership, advocacy for clients and social policy, social work practice, program development and administration, and contributions to a positive image of the social work profession. The award ceremony was held at noon at the NASW-OK Annual State Conference on Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup> in Tulsa.

Rehder has worked at Northwestern since 2005 and is credited with leading the social work program to external accreditation by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). Northwestern's social work program is only one of five CSWE accredited universities in the state and is the only one in western Oklahoma. With the development of a social work program in the region, the landscape of social services in Northwest Oklahoma has been transformed.

Rehder is overjoyed to be named the 2018 Social Worker of the Year by NASW-OK. NASW is the largest membership organization of professional social workers in the world and focuses on enhancing the professional growth and development of its members, creating and maintaining professional standards, and advancing sound social policies.

"I am truly honored to receive this recognition as it is privilege to work as a professional social worker. To receive this award at the annual state conference with many of my current and former students, colleagues, and mentors will be a very special professional moment," Rehder said.

Rehder obtained a bachelor's degree in social work from Northwestern (2001) and a Master of Social Work from the University of Oklahoma (2003). In 2013, she completed a doctorate degree from North Central University, where her dissertation research focused on the use of technology in social work education and practice. Rehder is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and a Board Approved Clinical Supervisor by the Oklahoma State Board of Licensed Social Workers. She has a rich history of involvement in the NASW-OK, holding key roles such as Northwest Branch Chair, Chapter Committee on Nominations and Leadership Identity (CNLI), and the steering committee for the Social Work Public Education Campaign.

Her research efforts on licensure laws, titles and requirements provided the necessary foundation for legislative changes, bringing the Oklahoma's Social Work Practice Act in alignment with other jurisdictions and the Social Work National Model Act. In 2015, Rehder was appointed by the governor to serve on the State Board of Licensed Social Workers and is currently the board's secretary. She is an advisory board member for the Child Welfare Professional Enhancement Program (CWPEP), which focuses on strengthening child welfare services in Oklahoma. In addition, she is a board member of Freedom West Community Development Corporation, a non-profit development entity in Northwest Oklahoma that works to revitalize rural communities to increase community sustainability through proactive social and economic change efforts.

Rehder serves as a clinical consultant to many Northwest Oklahoma agencies and is a member of the Oklahoma Medical Reserve Corps (OKMRC), where she serves as a disaster mental health responder. She is the Jake and Jayne Lindsay Endowed Chair in Social Work at Northwestern, the university's 2012 Distinguished Service Award recipient, and was named the prestigious John Barton Distinguished Teaching and Service Award recipient in 2013. In 2017, she

was selected as one of the 100 honorees in the field of social work from the Anne and Henry Zarrow School of Social Work at the University of Oklahoma for its 100th anniversary celebration.



Above: Dr. Rehder accepting her award from the Executive Director of NASW-OK, Steven W. Pharris, LCSW, JD and NASW-OK Board President, Frannie Pryor, MSW, LCSW.

# Alumni Highlight - Lacey Vaughan

Lacey Vaughan began her NWSU journey in August 2008 as a pre-nursing major in hopes of working as a RN in a children's hospital. After three semesters of rigorous pre-nursing classes she decided nursing was not the path she wanted to take. Searching for her new major included talking to several departments about their programs and ultimately her discussion with Dr. Rehder. During this discussion it was very clear social work was meant to be. The change in major reignited her passion for learning, and decreased her stress levels remarkably.

"School became easier because I was passionate about what I was doing. I loved science, but nursing was not the path I was meant to take. I found much more academic success because my major and minor (psychology) became alive for me. The social work curriculum just clicked with my mind and I was able to succeed far above what I knew I could. It is all about finding what works best for you. When I mentor High school seniors now I encourage them to not put too much pressure on their major, but to explore what works well with the mind and talents they naturally have. We can get so caught up in what other people see as success that we lie to ourselves about what we truly want. Well I don't make as much money as a nurse does but I am happier than ever and that is a pretty good payment."

Lacey graduated with her BSW in May 2013 and went directly into graduate school that June at the University of Oklahoma. She was able to put some of her science knowledge to work as a student of the Center for Social Work in Healthcare. Lacey was in the first round of students to complete a program through OUHSC called Empowering Patients through Inter-professional Collaboration (EPIC). This program included several different students from various health centered colleges and the OU school of social work. They were able to work together to treat patients at the Good Shepard Clinic in OKC. She as well was able to complete her graduate practicum at OU family medicine center on the OUHSC campus, focusing on the integration of social work in healthcare. Lacey graduated with her MSW in May 2014 with a 4.0 GPA.

"I believe the NWSU program prepared me greatly for the MSW program. I am so grateful for the guidance and leadership of Dr. Rehder and Casie Brittain. They continually believed in me when I did not believe in myself. I would never have made it through either program without the guidance I received at NWSU. Making the decision to move to Norman for grad school was a difficult one. I will always remember sitting in Dr. Rehder's office agonizing and terrified over the move. I decided it was either now or never and made plans to move. The leap of faith it took to move was hard but very worth it. I laugh now at how scared I was, but the fear was so real. The unknown of the "big city" was terrifying, but the growth I have experienced because of it is tremendous. I now believe that if you are not terrified about 80% of the time you are probably not reaching your full potential as a person. Social work and healthcare was the perfect marriage of my two loves and I was in awe of what I was able to learn. Graduating with a 4.0 is something I never believed I could accomplish, it just shows with passion and a little sweat impossible dreams can happen. I bet my high school teachers would be shocked by the effort I put into my college years. It is never too late to make a change."

After graduation Lacey took a job at Community Mental Health Center in Norman and went under supervision for licensure. While at COCMHC Lacey was able to gain vast knowledge of clinical work and conducted both group and individual psychotherapy. She completed her clinical hours and received her LCSW in October 2016. In March 2017 Lacey left COCMHC to work in the Central Office for the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. She currently works at ODMHSAS as a site implementation coordinator for a grant project focusing on the integration of behavioral health in healthcare. This project is named SBIRT (Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment) and the hope is to expand the project throughout the state in the next five years.



"I am so grateful for the life I currently have. I am continually in awe and grateful for the many blessings I have in my life. I love the life I live. I will forever call Alva my home and I will definitely always be a Ranger. I really "grew up" in my time there. I worked as a CSM for Wal-Mart in Alva most of my undergraduate experience. I believe that experience as well helped mold me in to the social worker I have become. My hope for everyone is that they get the nerve to BE BRAVE and take chances. When I left nursing school I was at my lowest point, feeling defeated and beat down. Later I found that experience lead me to right where I am supposed to be."

# Eight inducted into Pi Gamma Mu

Eight social work majors along with nine other social sciences students were inducted into the Pi Gamma Mu honors society on March 7, 2018 on the NWOSU Alva campus. A ceremony honoring their achievements took place with Jennifer Pribble, MSW, LCSW representing the Social Work department.

Pi Gamma Mu was founded in 1924 at the College of William & Mary in Virginia and Southwestern College in Kansas. The mission of Pi Gamma Mu is to encourage and promote excellence in the Social Sciences and to uphold and nurture scholarship, leadership, and service. The honor society is a member of, and provides leadership to, the national Association of College Honor Societies. Membership requirements include 3.4 GPA, top 1/3 of graduating class, and 20 hours of social sciences credits. Members enjoy advanced employment opportunities in federal and state positions, and may apply for graduate school scholarships. Membership is a distinctive honor.

The Department of Social Work would like to thank Dr. Kay Decker and the social sciences department for inclusion of the department of social work into the honors society.

"It is a wonderful thing to get an opportunity to publicly acknowledge these talented social work students for both their academic achievements and their commitment to the service of others outside of the classroom." said Dr. Kylene Rehder, chair of the Department of Social Work at NWOSU.



Those inducted into this year's class were (left to right) Jordan Koehn, Dana Kausek, Levi Sanders, Jessica Goodballet, Annie Moss, Denise Tyrell, Alicia James, and Professor Jennifer Pribble, LCSW, Not Pictured: Madeline Turner.

## NWOSU represented at 2018 NASW-OK conference



**Above (Left to right):** Showing our Ranger Pride are NWOSU social work alumni, students and faculty: Jessi Neal (2017), Annie Moss, Sierra Miller, Dana Kausek, Denise Tyrell, Dr. Kylene Rehder (2001), Lacey Vaughn (2013-NASW-OK undergraduate of the year), Ana Estrada (2012), Codi Harding (2017), DeeDee Nolan (2017-NASW-OK undergraduate of the year), Marcy Rael, and Jennifer Pribble (2012).

**Middle top:** Dr. Kylene Rehder (2001) and Cynthia McCormick (2007) who attended the conference.

**Middle bottom:** Lacey Vaughn (2013) and Ana Estrada (2012) met up at the conference.

**Far right:** NWOSU faculty Dr. Kylene Rehder (2001) and Jennifer Pribble (2012) holding the Social Worker of the Year award presented to Rehder during the conference.



# Social Work Students Accepted into the N.E.W. Leadership Institute

Northwestern Oklahoma State University has had two social work majors, Marsellia Rael and Mirissa Branine, accepted into the National Education for Women's (N.E.W.) Leadership Institute. Both are students at Northwestern-Woodward.

Each year, about 30 students are selected for the institute through a competitive application process. Rael and Branine, both Woodward seniors, were chosen based on numerous factors including, but not limited to: individual leadership potential, maturity, ability to deal with challenges, capacity to reflect on one's own personal strengths and weaknesses, special interests, unique characteristics or diverse experiences that contribute to the N.E.W. Leadership learning goals, interest in politics, public service or public policy, and a commitment to participate fully in the N.E.W. Leadership institute.

N.E.W. Leadership is an intense, five-day program that takes place each year on the University of Oklahoma's Norman campus and is designed specifically for undergraduate women from colleges and universities across the state of Oklahoma. Participants reside at the Alpha Phi House, and the entire experience, including housing and meals, is offered at no cost to students. This year the event will be May 18-22.

"Marsellia and Mirissa are exceptional students focused on public service and policy development that advances social well-being," Dr. Kylene Rehder, social work department chair, said. "The department is excited for their opportunity to learn from some of the state's most elite women."

The award-winning program educates and empowers undergraduate women to participate actively in politics and public service. The program connects students to policy makers and community activists to engage them in shaping the public agenda. Launched in 2002, the program is part of the N.E.W. Leadership National Network at the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University.

Program faculty includes more than 50 women leaders from public life. They include elected officials, business leaders, community organizers and members of the judiciary. The curriculum includes skill-building workshops, a campaign simulation, a networking day at the Oklahoma State Capitol, a collaborative action project, panel discussions and more. They bring participants together to engage directly with Oklahoma's top women leaders.



*Pictured are Marsellia Rael (top) and Mirissa Branine (bottom).*

## Social Work future is bright

The Department of Social Work at Northwestern loves to take the time to recognize all of our hard working students that complete the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree. Every spring the department has the honor of witnessing their hard work pay off when they accept employment or choose to attend graduate school. This year there are four BSW students continuing their education at a variety of universities.

Dana Kausek will be attending the University of Oklahoma in Tulsa to attain her Master of Social Work (MSW) degree. Sierra Miller and Annie Moss will both be attending the University of Oklahoma in Norman to attain their Master of Social Work (MSW) degrees. Finally, Levi Sanders will be attending the University of Kansas to attain his Master of Social Work (MSW) degree. Sanders also was selected for a prominent study abroad program at the University of Kansas which will provide him the opportunity to study social work on an international level during a 13 day journey to Milan and Rome, Italy.

"We are so proud of our students who choose to pursue MSW degrees, but are equally as proud of our BSW graduates who are taking impressive positions and dedicating themselves to the generalist practice of social work," said Dr. Rehder, Social Work Department Chair.

"Graduates of our program are awarded BSW degrees and are prepared for immediate entry into professional practice. BSW graduates have the intellectual, practical, and professional skills needed to promote beneficial change in the lives of their clients and in society at large. We look forward to seeing what the future has in store for all of them," said Professor Pribble, Director of Social Work Field Education.

# Social Work students enter the field for practicums

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Social Work Students recently began their field practicums for the spring semester. Eight senior social work majors entered practicum agencies in Northwest Oklahoma to complete 420 contact hours, demonstrate 31 practice behaviors and master the program's 9 core competencies as outlined by the Council on Social Work Education.

"A crucial part of attaining your Bachelor of Social Work is the field experience component. This component of the program allows students to develop practitioner skills to become a successful social worker upon graduation," said Jennifer Pribble, Assistant Professor of Social Work and Director of Social Work Field Education.

Each student in their field practicum is assigned to a field instructor, someone with specific credentials in the agency to reinforce social work ideas, practice behaviors and competencies.

"Field Instructors are a crucial part of the field practicum experience. Field Instructors volunteer their time to assist with educating these young professionals. Without their contributions to our students, our program, and the social work profession field practicums would not be possible." Pribble said.

Listed below are senior students currently in their field practicums, hometowns, and their practicum agency placements:

Sierra Dezort of Mutual, OK, United Methodist Circle of Care; Kanani Jones of Fort Supply, OK, Northwest Substance Abuse Treatment Center; Dana Kausek of Enid, OK, Millennium Community Services; Denise Lively of Woodward, OK, Western Plains Youth and Family Services; Sierra Miller of Enid, OK, 4RKids Foundation; Annie Moss of Enid, OK, Department of Human Services; Mario Perez of El Paso, Texas, Western Plains Youth and Family Services; Levi Sanders of Goltry, OK, Youth and Family Services of North Central Oklahoma.



Sierra Dezort Kanani Jones Dana Kausek Denise Lively Sierra Miller Annie Moss Mario Perez Levi Sanders

## Annual gala attended by many

Youth and Family Services of North Central Oklahoma hosted its Seventh Annual Gala on March 3, 2018 at Independence Tower in Enid. This year's theme was "Casino Royale."

Casino-style games (black jack, poker, roulette, and a craps table) were provided by members of Enid's AM Ambucs. The fun began with dinner, featuring a choice of beef or chicken, at 6:00 p.m. In addition to the games, after dinner, there was dancing and a live auction. The event ended at 11:00 p.m.

All proceeds from the Gala will benefit Youth and Family Service's "Nights of Shelter" campaign. It costs Youth and Family Services approximately \$30.00 per night to house an additional child. In addition to providing shelter, Youth and Family Services provides food, case management, therapy and access to a wide range of other programs that help children achieve ongoing safety and stability. Over the past ten years, Youth and Family services has provided over 26,000 nights of safe shelter for area children. With the help of the community, they hope to continue to provide shelter and offer services that help prevent youth homelessness. Youth and Family Services of North Central Oklahoma is a 501(c)3 organization.

**9** Jennifer Pribble, assistant professor of Social Work at Northwestern Oklahoma State University assisted with the event.

# Primp for Prom was a success

The annual Primp for Prom event recently held at the Woodward High School Practice Gym was a great success. This year more than 400 dresses and 75 pairs of shoes were donated. Each year the Department of Social Work and Woodward High School Key Club sponsors the event and gathers dress and shoe donations providing them to high school students at no charge. This year, 15 schools and two states participated in the event resulting in hundreds of dresses being given away.

“Primp for Prom is a heartwarming experience which highlights the generosity of others and the kindness which exists in our local communities,” Dr. Kylene Rehder, Department of Social Work chair, said.

The Department of Social Work would like to express appreciation to the following, which contributed to the success of Primp for Prom: Woodward High School Key Club members; Anjanette Laverty, Woodward High School counselor; Woodward Leadership Advisory Board; Tom and Dr. Deena Fisher; Kalle Laubhan; Northwestern social work student volunteers; Social Workers Association of Tomorrow (SWAT) campus organization; Woodward High School employee volunteers; National Association of Social Workers- Oklahoma chapter, and all the generous dress and shoe donors from across northwest Oklahoma.

“The Department of Social Work and the Key Club is always honored to sponsor this event for young women in the tri-state area. This event is about more than dresses for us; we see it as a means to embody our university mission to build a sense of community and provide service to others,” Dr. Kylene Rehder, Department of Social Work chair, said.



Many of the dresses that were available through Primp for Prom this year. The event took up one half of the practice gym in Woodward.

## NWOSU students apply social work skills at block party during NASW-OK Conference



Social work seniors from Northwestern recently participated in a service learning project which coincided with the National Association of Social Workers Oklahoma Annual State Conference. Students had the opportunity to apply social work skills in the real world during a block party at a south Tulsa apartment complex known for its high crime rate. Social work students from Oral Roberts University, Northeastern State University, the University of Oklahoma, East Central University and Northwestern partnered with professional social workers to provide food, support and information on local resources to residents of the Savanna Landing apartments, 1111 E. 60th St. and Peoria.

Northwestern students Annie Moss (right) and Dana Kausek help a young resident pick out a prize during the block party at the Savanna Landing Apartments in Tulsa, OK on April 5. The photo by Brett Rojo, original story by Kyle Hinchey was printed in the online addition of the Tulsa World newspaper.

# SWAT fosters “wooden child” for prevention of child abuse

Social Workers Association of Tomorrow (SWAT) has taken part in the “Wooden Children” project sponsored by the Garfield County Child Advocacy Center. The “Wooden Children” project is designed to bring awareness to the number of child abuse cases that are investigated each year. In 2017, 246 confirmed cases of child abuse were reported in Garfield County.

Each wooden figurine is approximately two to three feet high and were cut out by volunteers from Vance Air Force Base. Once the forms were cut out, the GMPEO, Junior Welfare League and other individuals painted on the faces and hair.

Organizations, businesses, groups and individuals were asked to “foster” a wooden child for \$25. The group sponsoring the child will dress and display them where they choose from March 14-March 30. On March 30<sup>th</sup> the Wooden Children were taken to the court house lawn to be displayed for all of April which is Child Abuse Prevention Month.

“Child abuse is such a silent action and is not majorly discussed that this event gives the opportunity to bring a visual representation of the severity of child abuse in this area,” Pribble continues. “April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month and the amount of awareness this event is bringing to this community will hopefully assist with future prevention of child abuse.”



*Pictured are (L to R) Levi Sanders (SWAT President), Annie Moss, and Sierra Miller (SWAT Secretary).*



# Dignity Drive received donations

Students in the Social Workers Association of Tomorrow (SWAT) chapter at Northwestern Oklahoma State University recently called upon the community for its Compassion in Action Dignity Drive this fall.

SWAT is a student-run organization that seeks to enhance the social work learning experience. One of SWAT’s purposes is to employ community service projects while supporting our community partners and their consumers. The Compassion in Action Dignity Drive is one of the community service projects SWAT students host to give back to the community. Approximately \$500 worth of donations included feminine hygiene products, toothbrushes, body wash, shampoo and conditioner, lotion, mouthwash, and deodorant. The Dignity Drive was a success and has allowed SWAT to provide others with basic needs in the Enid Community.

“Last year we donated to a local church for families involved in their soup kitchen,” Jennifer Pribble, SWAT sponsor and assistant professor of social work, said. “This year’s donations are being given to the YWCA in Enid, a Women’s Shelter for domestic violence survivors...Women and children needing aid from a domestic violence situation can look into the YWCA located in Enid.”

SWAT members would like to thank everyone who assisted with putting this event together and those who were able to donate from all three Northwestern locations.

“Being able to see students and faculty pour into the community is a sight that I will never tire of seeing,” Levi Sanders, SWAT president said. “It was privilege having this event. SWAT is grateful to everyone that pitched in to make the holiday season brighter.”



*Pictured are (L to R) Levi Sanders, Sierra Miller, Annie Moss, and Dana Kausek with the drive donations.*

**11** SWAT plans to have another donation drive at the same time next year. Donations will be welcome in November through the beginning of December in 2018.

# Advisory 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.



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

**Nancy Prigmore**, MSW, JD, Manager,  
*Legal Aid Services of Oklahoma*



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

**Raquel Razien**, Family Specialist,  
*United Methodist Circle of Care*



**Levi Sanders**, SWAT President,  
*Northwestern Oklahoma State University*

**Tricia Mitchell**, Executive Director,  
*4RKids Foundation*



**Trudy Hoffman**, Executive Director,  
*Northwest Center for Behavioral Health*

**Pamela Bookout**, MSW, LCSW, Clinical Director,  
*Youth and Family Services of North Central Oklahoma, Inc.*



*In memory of Orren Dale, PhD, MSSW*