

Child Welfare Education Project

CWEP NewsLine

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Please visit our CWEP Website:

National Title IV-E Website: <http://www.sw.uh.edu/community/cwep/title-iv-e/index.php>

CWEP students: <http://www.sw.uh.edu/community/cwep/current-students/index.php>

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Director's Corner



Happy New Year!

Let me start by saying congratulations to our CWEP students for their major accomplishments during the Fall Semester: That well deserved A, the flawless research projects, the "paper", etc. You all are a great group of dedicated individuals. Your enthusiasm is contagious.

I would like to take this time out to thank each and every one of you for choosing a career in Child Welfare. This is definitely one of the most challenging professions. As MSW students, you are gaining the knowledge and expertise necessary to be all that you can be.

We know that children are the most vulnerable citizens in the state and it is up to us to ensure that they are safe and have permanency. We must continue to seek permanent homes for children who are in temporary homes. It is our duty to serve as advocates. They deserve to receive appropriate and adequate services in order to grow up and become functional adults. Today's children are tomorrow's leaders.

Much success to each of you during the Spring 2013 Semester!

"If we don't stand up for children, then we don't stand for much."

Marian Wright Edelman

Arnitia Walker

CWEP Director

Advisor Tip



**Always pay close attention to deadlines to avoid late fees.
P.S If you are graduating in May make sure you register on time.**

Brunessia Wilson

CWEP Student Affairs Coordinator

DFPS Spotlight:

Sheryl Dotson



1. What is your current position with CWEP or CPS? How long have you been working in this position? What prior experience(s) did you bring with you to this position?

I am currently a Program Administrator in the Conservatorship Program in Harris County. I have been in this position for five years. I started my career with CPS in 1980 as an investigative worker in a specialized physical abuse unit working cases of children 0-7. Since that time my experience has been in conservatorship as a supervisor, and a program director. I have also been a CWEP field instructor with the University of Houston and I have served as a field instructor for BSW interns at Prairie View A&M.

2. What have been the greatest rewards working in the CWEP or CPS family?

Educating and developing staff with the skills and knowledge necessary to enhance their ability to improve outcomes for families and children by, placing and keeping siblings together, returning children to their parents, placing with a relative/fictive kin or thru adoption. Every child deserves a “forever family” because as an agency we don’t make good parents; we help them becoming one.

3. What advice do you have for our CWEP students?

I would encourage students to be proactive and take responsibility as well as an interest in learning the skills and knowledge necessary in order to become successful in CPS. Students should not hesitate to always ask questions if they are not sure about something. By getting their MSW and CPS experience, students are already on their path to success as they will be seen as an expert in child protection. Lastly, students need to have a passion for the work to help the families and children that we work with to achieve positive outcomes in their lives.

CWEP Student Spotlight

Nicole Robinson



What is your current job position (if you are working at CPS)? Or, tell us about yourself.

I am a first year advanced standing clinical track student with a specialization in Health Disparities as well as a recipient of the CWEP stipend. I graduated from Texas Southern University in 2008 where I received a BA in Social Work. After graduating from the social work program, I knew children and families was where I would love to dedicate my time. So I joined an agency that provided foster care and adoption to children whom were in the child welfare system. Here is where I found much reward for the time I provided assisting children and families.

I am also a mother of three wonderful boys. They have been very supportive in my decision to devote my time to those in need as well as returning to school in pursuit of obtaining my MSW. From time to time the boys have volunteered their time where needed as well.

What motivated you to join the MSW program?

I always knew I wanted to go back to obtain my MSW. Getting my family situated so I could give my full attention to the program and class work was my biggest obstacle, because I needed to make sure home was taken care of first. Working with children and families I knew I needed to go back ASAP also so I could provide the needed therapeutic services to my clients. Providing them with the needed therapeutic services would give them the opportunity to acquire and enhance the skills necessary to establish and maintain healthy relationships. So I began my research of MSW programs and found UH-GCSW had just what I was looking for.

The Story of Medicare: A Timeline



Do you know how Medicare began?
Do you know the milestones that contributed
to the present day Medicare policies?

This is a seven minute video overview
of the history of Medicare.
It is definitely worth watching by all ages
because we will all be using Medicare
someday....

<http://www.kff.org/medicare/medicare-timeline.cfm>



Message from Child Welfare Education Gateway



NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH 2012

National Adoption Month 2012 is over, but there are still **104,000 children and youth** in foster care nationwide who need families.

Honor adoption all year by continuing to visit

Child Welfare Information Gateway's 2012 National Adoption Month website to find resources and tools for professionals, prospective adoptive parents, and youth.

Bookmark the National Adoption Month website today:

<http://www.childwelfare.gov/adoption/nam/>

27TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE

When: March 4-5, 2013

Where: Omni Hotel at the Colonnade
San Antonio, TX

Keynote Speakers:

Bruce D. Perry, MD, PhD

Ira Chasnoff, MD

Barbara Ayres-Wilson

Judge Peter Sakai

F. Scott McCown

[REGISTER FORM](#)

[Conference Brochure](#)

[Conference at a Glance](#)

[WORKSHOP LIST](#)

[Additional Information](#)

For questions or concerns:

Visit [website](#) OR

call 513-220-4315 OR

email conferences@preventchildabuse.org

The Child Trauma Academy Newsletter

Dr. Bruce D. Perry, MD, PhD, is a well-known scholar in child trauma. His staff, Dr. Christine Dobson, who is in charge of the CTA's Research and Outcomes Collaborative, is University of Houston's Graduate College of Social Work alumnus. Please visit their website to find out more about their research findings to support your practice in child welfare.

**Find all topics listed below on the
[Child Trauma Academy Website](http://www.childtrauma.org/)
<http://www.childtrauma.org/>**

Introduction to
Neurosequential
Model in Education:
NME

Winter 2013 NMT Case-Based
Training Series Begins
January 11th - Register
Today!
[SCHEDULE](#)

St. Aemilian-Lakeside
Seeing Improved
Outcomes Associated
with NMT Implementation

Message From Child Welfare Information Gateway

The report, *Child Maltreatment 2011*, from The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Family reveals that there is a **steady decline in number of victims who suffer from maltreatment for a fifth consecutive year**. Although this is true, a decline does not mean an abomination of the issue. The government must continue coordinating efforts with federal, state and local agencies to focus on child maltreatment prevention.

[Full report of the *Child Maltreatment 2011*](#)

Additional information on preventing child abuse is available at [Child Welfare Information Gateway](#)

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/preventing/>



FREE WEBINARS for

Title IV-E Faculty, Staff and Students

From: National Child Welfare Workforce Institute

Casework Teaming to Reduce Workload, Enhance Effectiveness and Boost Morale

January 30, 2013; 2 PM CT

This session will provide an in-depth overview of all aspects of casework teaming, highlight the development, implementation, and outcomes of this effective caseload/workload management strategy, and offer specific lessons learned, tips for other agencies, and the leadership skills and competencies necessary to sustain it over time.

[REGISTER HERE NOW](#)

Adaptive Leadership: Practical Application

January 31, 2013; 1 PM CT

This 90 minute webinar will focus on the practical application of the concepts covered in the book, *The Practice of Adaptive Leadership*. It will be led by Nancy Dickinson, NCWWI Project Director, and Deborah Reed, LAMM Project Manager. We'll discuss diagnosing the adaptive challenge, mobilizing the system, deploying yourself and practical ways to use these concepts to improve outcomes for children, youth and families.

[REGISTER HERE TODAY](#)

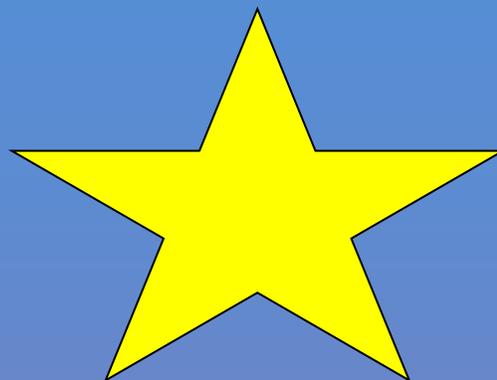
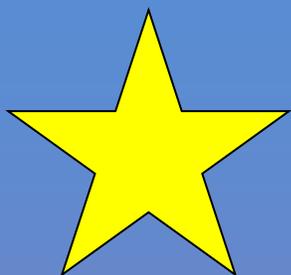
The Status of Evidence-Based Practice in Child Welfare: Opportunities & Challenges

February 20, 2013; 12 PM CT

This session is an opportunity for participants to hear about the current trends in the implementation of Evidence-based Practices (EBP) in child welfare. Presenters will provide a brief orientation to the California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare and then discuss examples of jurisdictions that have successfully implemented EBP in child welfare and their keys to success. The webinar will conclude with an examination of current and future challenges for the field.

[REGISTER HERE TODAY](#)

www.ncwwi.org



Texas Legislative Blog

GCSW has recently signed up to follow the Texas Legislative Blog.

This is available to all students, but would be particularly useful for MACRO Students. Check it out every so often to see what is new with the Texas Legislative!



BLOG

<http://mhahouston.wordpress.com/>



January 21, 2013 is Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

“I Have a Dream” Speech by Martin Luther King, Jr., August 28, 1963

I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal."

I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood.

I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice.

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.

I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day, down in Alabama, with its vicious racists, with its governor having his lips dripping with the words of interposition and nullification; one day right there in Alabama, little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers.

I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain, and the crooked places will be made straight, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

This is our hope.

This is the faith that I go back to the South with. With this faith we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope. With this faith we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood. With this faith we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day. This will be the day when all of God's children will be able to sing with a new meaning, "My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing. Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrim's pride, from every mountainside, let freedom ring."

And if America is to be a great nation this must become true. So let freedom ring from the prodigious hilltops of New Hampshire. Let freedom ring from the mighty mountains of New York. Let freedom ring from the heightening Alleghenies of Pennsylvania!

Let freedom ring from the snowcapped Rockies of Colorado!

Let freedom ring from the curvaceous slopes of California!

But not only that; let freedom ring from Stone Mountain of Georgia!

Let freedom ring from Lookout Mountain of Tennessee!

Let freedom ring from every hill and molehill of Mississippi. From every mountainside, let freedom ring.

And when this happens, when we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, "Free at last! free at last! thank God Almighty, we are free at last!"

CWEP Calendar of Events

SPRING 2013

January

- 14th - **Classes Begin for Spring Semester**
 21st - **MARTIN LUTHERN KING, JR., HOLIDAY**
 25th - Brown Bag at CPS from 12:00pm-1:00pm

February

- 21st - Mentor Networking Event – From 12 PM – 1 PM (Location TBA)

March

- TBA - CWEP Symposium
 11th – 16th - **SPRING BREAK WEEK**
 25th-29th - CWEP Student Advising for summer/fall 2013

April

- 29th - Last Class Day spring semester

May

- 1st-9th - Final Examination Period
 2nd - CELEBRATING CWEP at Rockwell Pavilion (UH) from 6:00 PM-8:00 PM
 10th - **CONVOCATION (DATE TO BE FINALIZED; SEE GCSW ANNOUNCEMENT)**

Summer 2013

May

- 27th - **MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY**
 28TH-31ST - TITLE IV-E CHILD WELFARE ROUNDTABLE CONFERENCE-SAN LUIS HOTEL, GALVESTON, TX

June

- 3rd - Classes Begin for Summer I, II, III
 7th - New Applicant's Deadline to turn in CWEP Application for fall 2013

July

- 1st - Last Class Day Summer II
 4th - Independence Day Holiday
 8th - Classes Begin for Summer IV
 23rd - Last Class Day Summer III

August

- 1st - Last Class Day Summer I
 5th - Last Class Day Summer IV

Beyond the CWEP Mentorship program, do you also know about the **Learning Enhancement Opportunity (LEO) offered by CWEP?**

If you need academic assistance, please contact your LEO mentor, **Jackie Duron, LCSW, a GCSW doctoral student who volunteers her time to help you. Learn more about it at**

<http://www.sw.uh.edu/community/cwep/current-students/index.php>

(under "The LEO Mentor Program").