

BYU SOCIAL WORK

BYU SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR

In Memoriam: Dr. Kevin Marett 1955–2018

*"That's Marett
with one R and
two T's and
don't let the
door hit you on
the way out."*

*"Is this good
stuff or what?"
— Kevin Marett*



*"We have a di-
vine destiny to
fulfill that will
require the
best efforts of
faculty, staff,
and students.
The future has
much to offer
and we have
much to offer
the future."*

— Kevin Marett

It is with deep sadness that the School of Social Work announces the passing of Kevin Marvell Marett, faculty member, former director of the School, and cherished friend of many professors, students, and alumni. Dr. Marett battled cancer for months before crossing through the veil on February 24, 2018, surrounded by his family. Dr. Marett was a champion of the pursuit of excellence in social work. He never forgot to look back with gratitude to the giants on whose shoulders BYU social work is borne.

Dr. Marett did not teach during the 2017-2018 school year due the health challenges that developed over the summer of 2017. In June he was diagnosed with Biphasic Mesothelioma, an oncological disease that develops from the thin layer of tissue that surrounds many bodily organs. Although the condition was known to be terminal, Dr. Marett chose to undergo chemotherapy and radiation treatment in an effort to impede the progression of the illness. In September, doctors found that chemo was not having the desired effect. He found limited success taking experimental medicines to prolong his life, but the help they afforded him did not last long. His health soon turned again in late February, this time for good. His funeral in early March was well attended by family, current and former faculty, and many others who knew him well.

Following the diagnosis of Dr. Marett's condition, faculty members rallied to cover his assigned

Table of Contents

Annual Conference	5
From The Director	9
From The Alumni President	10
Marett Endowment Fund	11
Prof. Jini Roby Retirement	11
Faculty Updates	12
Visiting Professor	17
Hinckley Lecture	19
MSW Student Association	21
MSWSA Opening Social	22
Christmas Party	23
Topaz Visit	24
Student Americorps Award	27
New Student Orientation	28
National Advisory Council	30
Internship Presentations	32
Fulton Conference	33
Dr. Wood at Grand Rounds	35
Kognito Software	36
First Year Bios	38
Second Year Experiences	52
Alumni Updates	53

classes and provide mutual support. Although the short notice precluded hiring new professors for the upcoming school year, all available personnel stretched their resources to the limit to fill the looming hole in the School the academic leviathan had left behind. Through this time, the faculty strove to maintain the level of scholastic excellence characteristic of the BYU Social Work Program, determined that the education of the students not suffer due to circumstances beyond their control.

Dr. Marett held a bachelor's degree in psychology from BYU, a master's degree in social work from the University of Utah, and a PhD in marriage and family therapy from Purdue. During his academic career, he wrote numerous articles on family therapy and interdisciplinary clinical practice, gave workshops at local, state, and national levels, and conducted marriage and family therapy in his private practice. He was a member of the faculty at BYU for more than 25 years, serving as director of the School of Social Work for three of those years. During his time as director, he was a fierce advocate of collecting donations for MSW students who would not otherwise be able to attend school. He taught many courses during his time at BYU, including Marriage and Family Therapy, Crisis Intervention, and Social Work Practice Models. In Fall 2016 he received the Martin B. Hickman FHSS Excellence in Teaching Award for his exemplary service.

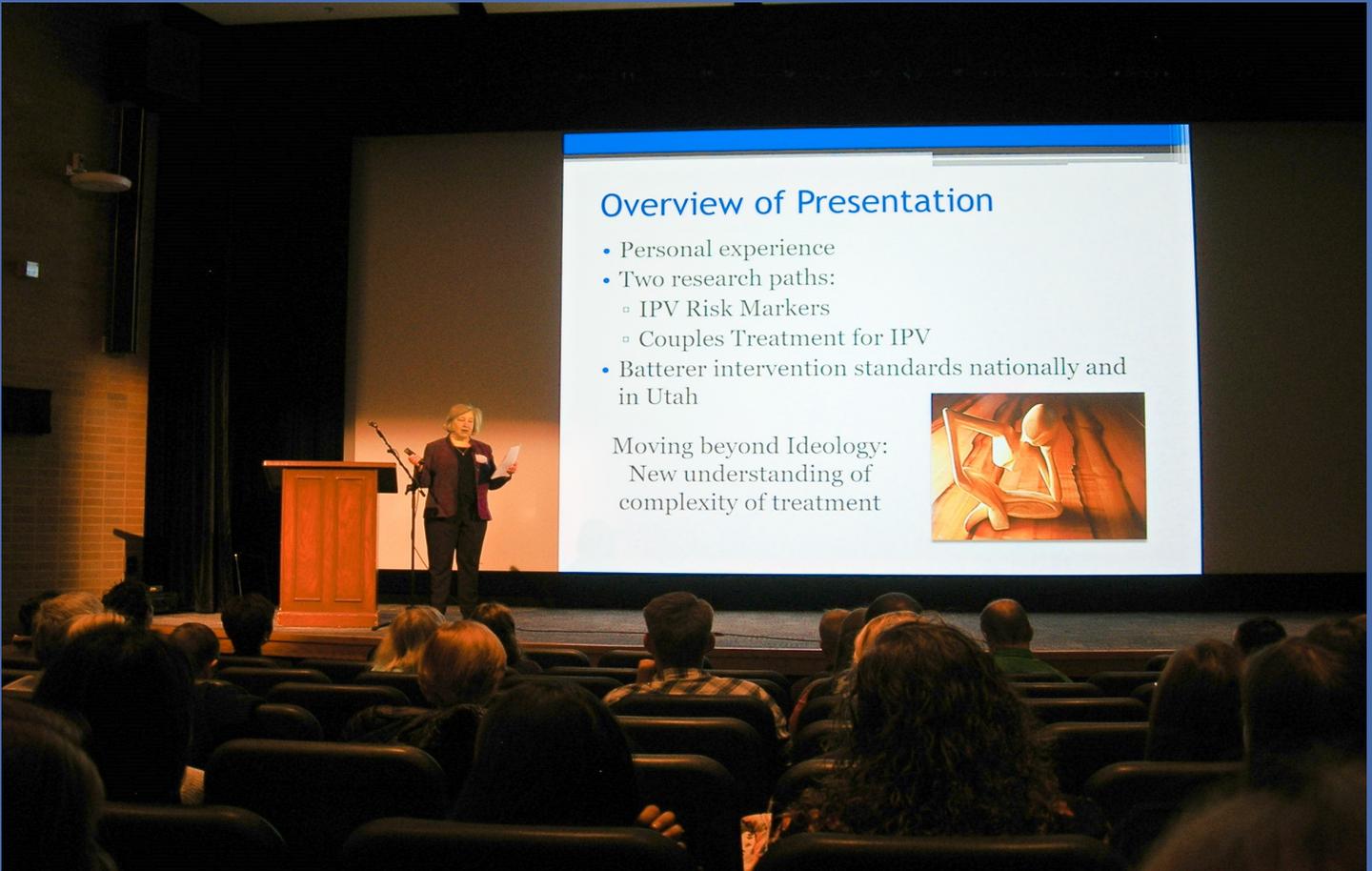


Students remember Dr. Marett as a light-hearted professor who cared deeply about those he taught. Encouraging and yet demanding of his students, he pushed each one to become their very best. At the same time, he was ever-ready to provide a needed leg up in time of need. His "Marett-isms" often brightened classes with well-remembered phrases such as "You've just gotta believe" and "I have self-actualized!" His presence in the social work classroom is both honored and greatly missed.

Dr. Marett is the father of six children and eight grandchildren, all of whom he loved dearly and who deepened and enriched his life. His time on earth was spent in the service of others, truly epitomizing the core social work values of Dignity and Worth of the Person, Integrity, and the Importance of Human Relationships. A social worker through and through, he was a model of clinical service after which each of us would do well to pattern ourselves, both personally and professionally. As he inscribed acts of Christian love on the tables of his life one day at a time, Dr. Marett became the very type of person he esteemed so highly: A giant upon whose shoulders the BYU Social Work community now stands.



School of Social Work Hosts 12th Annual Conference



Dr. Sandra Stith speaks at the opening plenary session of the BYU School of Social Work Intimate Partner Violence Conference

Social work has the tools to combat domestic violence in Utah County and across the country. That was the principle takeaway from the BYU School of Social Work Intimate Partner Violence Conference, held in the Wilkinson Center Varsity Theatre on Brigham Young University campus on the

first Friday of November. While each conference speaker elaborated on the breadth, scope, and tragic consequences of aggressive behavior between romantic partners, none of them approached the issue from a position of hopelessness and pessimism. Rather, they equipped their audience with practical tools and sugges-

March

is

Social Work

Month

tions they could use to enhance their ability to handle IPV cases in a competent manner in their own practices.

The opening plenary session speaker, Dr. Sandra Stith of Kansas State University, spoke of the myriad of risk factors associated with intimate partner violence. "My conclusion is that IPV is multi-causal" she said, highlighting how the significant predictors of violence ranged from the use of power and control to income, stress, and age, to a history of violence and previous domestic violence perpetration. Dr. Stith explained that it is useful to differentiate situational violence, which involves conflict over specific issues and more frequent levels of mutual violence, from intimate partner terrorism, in which one partner attempts to completely dominate and control the other. Her main conclusion was that because IPV is so heavily heterogeneous, a one-size-fits-all approach doesn't work. Yet, she pointed out, about 91% of IPV programs require specific cookie cutter programs that try to lump all IPV cases together under a single treatment protocol. On a positive note, Dr. Stith also pointed out how flexible the standards for treating IPV are in Utah and offered her personal approbation.

Dr. Casey Taft tackled the group therapy approach to IPV treatment, elaborating on the specifics of a trauma-informed model of his own invention called Strength at Home. He cautioned that while using trauma-informed methods to approach

IPV perpetrators may sound like a way to excuse offenders for their aggression, his approach still emphasizes personal responsibility for violent behavior. It simply also recognizes the negative influence trauma can have on all types of people and the way that treating the underlying trauma can help perpetrators break their cycle of hostility.



Dr. Taft presented on Strength at Home, a trauma-informed intervention for perpetrators of intimate partner violence.

His intervention model begins by helping perpetrators identify the pros and cons of their violent behavior using Motivational Interviewing techniques and goes on to teach assertiveness and emotional expression skills. Each group consists of 5-8 individuals and is currently being implemented in by the Veterans Administration. While

Dr. Taft hopes to expand the group to other settings, he felt that by starting with a population that society has more empathy for--veterans with PTSD--he would have a greater likelihood of garnering enough public support to get the ball rolling.

"When these things happen in the home, hearts are broken in a very literal sense."

—Stuart Harper

While Stuart Harper at Family Support and Treatment Center does not specialize in preventing Intimate Partner Violence, per se, he has seen its influence on the children he works with. In the play therapy room, he has observed firsthand the way children strive to work through psychological issues arising from violence between parents. The focus of his presentation was on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES), which is a principle medium by which IPV problems become intergenerational. "When these things happen in the home, hearts are broken in a very literal sense," he remarked. The solution involves helping children spend

more time in cognitive mode and less in survival mode. The drive to be whole is intuitive, so therapists should strive to remove the barriers to children's natural healing processes. By treating children who have grown up with IPV problems in their household, they can learn to break the cycle of violence and establish more positive relationships of their own.

Jen Oxborrow added a local touch to the discussion on IPV by enumerating the services provided by her organization, the Utah Domestic Violence Coalition. Her desire was to inform clinicians of the resources available

to them when they handle cases involving IPV. "If there is one thing I want you to remember from my presentation, it is 801-897-LINK," she said, referring to the hotline anyone can call to receive guidance in navigating sticky domestic violence situations.

She also spoke of the lethality assessment training her agency has conducted with numerous local police departments to help them make crucial judgment calls. She cited the incredibly small percentage of women in

Utah who have taken out restraining orders compared to high incidence of homicides due to IPV. If law enforcement involved with IPV cases can recognize the warning signs of potentially lethal situations, they will be in a better position to protect the citizens they serve.

Many first year MSW students were in attendance at the conference. They appreciated the diverse perspectives that were shared. "Hearing people who deal with local problems was invigorating for me," said Kelly Sykes, one of the students. "Utah has a lot of work to do with social

justice, so it made me want to get more involved and more informed and help in the place I am right now." Seeing how Intimate Partner Violence is being addressed in the community highlighted the very real impact these prospective social workers will one day have. They also enjoyed the opportunity to rub shoulders with the conference presenters at lunch. "It was beneficial to get to know people who had been in the field for a long time," said another student.

*"If there is one thing
I want you to
remember...it is 801-
897-LINK."*

—Jen Oxborrow



From the Director

Dr. Gordon Limb

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the School of Social Work at Brigham Young University is to support the overall mission of BYU and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints by generating new knowledge and by educating and training students to use the appropriate knowledge, values, and skills of the social work profession to serve children and families within their environment and the context of their specific cultures

Greetings!

This is the second draft of my original Director's Message. After I completed the first draft, we received news that our dear friend and colleague, Kevin Marett, had passed away. While we knew his cancer was terminal, we thought he had a few more months before we had to say goodbye. It was a tender mercy for me to be able to visit with him and his wife Lori at his home a day and a half before he passed away. Seeing his faith and that he was still the "same ol' Kevin" was heartening for me. He spoke of his love of teaching and how he missed being with the faculty, staff, and students at BYU. He also expressed how much he and his wife appreciated the love and support they had received through this difficult time. I conveyed to him how much we all miss and love him. At the time, I did not realize that it would be our last conversation, but I am grateful now for the time I was able to spend with him on that occasion. Over the past six months, my faith has been strengthened by his courage as he endured the pain associated with his cancer diagnosis.

He was a member of the social work faculty for 25 years and positively impacted countless numbers of students and associates. For that, we are all truly blessed to have known and worked with him. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Lori and the Marett family as they move forward without his wonderful spirit. We have a big hole in the School and in our hearts as a result of his loss. Thank you to all those who have offered your support and prayers.

Gordon Limb
BYU School of Social Work
Director and Graduate Coordinator

From the Alumni President

Ruth Aguirre

I am grateful for the work that each of you performs in this time of global instability. Thank you for your dedication to serve those around you and for instilling hope in your clients to ground themselves, self-motivate, and progress toward their potential.

All those who attended the 11th Annual conference on Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) agreed that it was a great success. Dr. Sandra Stith, Professor of Marriage and Family Therapy from Kansas State University, shared her extensive research on IPV partners and families. Dr. Casey Taft, Associate Professor of Psychiatry from Boston University School of Medicine, educated us on his involvement with the creation of Trauma-Informed Violence Partner Prevention interventions. Together with Jennifer Oxborrow, LSCW and Stuart Harper, LCSW, they enlightened our understanding of IPV from their direct practice with children, couples and families.

We were deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Dr. Kevin Marett. For many of us, Dr. Marett played an instrumental role in our education. He taught us the models of psychotherapy (especially Solution Focused), crisis intervention, marriage and family therapy, and much more. Dr. Marett's funeral was a celebration of the human service values that he demonstrated on and off campus. One of his children referred him as a father who was "always teaching [them] to think through and solve [their] own problems." He was always willing to lend us a hand, even if only to calm our worries about an upcoming test. We will greatly miss him, and look forward to "catching up" when we see him again. I invite alumni who so desire to contribute to the Kevin and Lori Marett Endowed Fund in Social Work to benefit future social work students.

In conjunction with the Alumni Association at BYU, I will be sending out a survey about your interest in future events and activities for social work alumni. I would appreciate your input. Also, if any of you are interested in forming a more comprehensive chapter with roles such as vice president, treasurer, secretary etc., please let me know. Feel free to reach me at ruthaguirrecounseling@gmail.com. Thank you again for your service, wherever you may be.

Ruth Aguirre
BYU School of Social Work
Alumni President



Your donation helps provide an excellent educational experience for students. If each of our 4,000+ social work alumni gave just \$10 per year, that would fund a scholarship for a current social work student!

Yes, your donation matters!

For donations to the School of Social Work contact:

Jim Crawley 940 KMBL
Provo, UT 84602
jim_crawley@byu.edu
(801) 422-8028

Help give more students an "exceptional educational experience."



BYU School of Social Work Announces Kevin and Lori Marett Endowed Fund in Social Work

In honor of our dear friend and colleague, Dr. Kevin Marett, the BYU School of Social Work is pleased to announce the establishment of the Kevin and Lori Marett Endowed Fund in Social Work. This endowment will be used to help future Social Work students manage the high cost of graduate education. Dr. Marett was a fierce advocate of collecting donations to assuage the financial needs of students in difficult circumstances, especially during his time as di-

rector of the School. Further details on the endowment fund will be announced on the BYU Social Work Facebook page as they become available, including a link to donate online. If you are interested in contributing now, you can contact Jim Crawley, jim_crawley@byu.edu, 801-422-8028.

Early BYU Alumnus Professor Jini Roby Announces Retirement

Professor Jini Roby knows the School of Social Work through and through. As part of the inaugural master's program, she literally had the first taste of what it means to be a graduate-level social work student at BYU. From 1990 to 1994 she taught part-time and has been a full-time faculty member ever since.

While her passion is international child welfare and policy reform, Professor Roby shares with all social workers a deep appreciation for one-on-one connections with others, a developing



process she believes has been one of her great learning experiences at BYU. Whether you're sitting in front of a Prime Minister, a class of aspiring students, or an elderly lady you meet on the street, says Professor Roby, "When you really connect with that person and communicate respect and appreciation for that person, you get more inspired yourself, and they respond in ways they wouldn't otherwise."

Those connections are what she will miss most about BYU. From working and mentoring relationships to professional academic bonds with colleagues, Professor Roby mourns not being able to continue fos-

"When you really connect with that person and communicate respect and appreciation for that person, you get more inspired yourself."

—Jini Roby

tering on a daily basis the many friendships she has forged. Even so, she doesn't foresee them ending. "This is definitely not the end of my association with BYU," she says.



Professor Roby is looking forward to living an increasingly balanced life with more time to travel and spend with family, including her new grandson. She will also continue her international consulting and training efforts, as will be of little surprise to those who know her well, considering the many projects she has undertaken over the years.

During her time at BYU, Professor Roby helped organize Cambodia's child protection system, taught a variety of classes ranging from Social Work and Family Law to Social Welfare Policy to--her personal favorite--Global Issues of Children at Risk, set up a case management program in Maui, provided consulting services in Pakistan, and helped establish standards for training social workers in countries with budding social service sectors. She also published a

landmark paper on birth parent rights in international adoption cases that launched the first serious academic discussion of the issue and led to the creation of new adoption laws in the Marshall Islands.

Professor Roby feels that BYU is truly unique. The understanding people have of human nature and the potential of every individual is second to none. Her parting words of advice are: Don't take it for granted. Appreciate and maximize your experience here. It won't last forever.

Professor Roby wishes to express her appreciation for the BYU administration from the very top to the Social Work department, colleagues and students. It has been "a wonderful, wonderful ride."

As for Dr. Roby, she is ready to move on to the new phase of life that is just now beginning to emerge for her. She doesn't know exactly what it will look like yet, but for the moment she doesn't have to. For now, the sky is the limit. The next stage of her life's adventure is just around the corner.

Faculty Updates



Dr. Gordon Limb has continued to study Native Americans, his personal topic of interest. Some of his papers this year have included comparisons of Native American and Caucasian scores on the OQ-45 therapeutic outcome questionnaire and the ways Native Americans react differently to stepfamily adjustment. He is also working on an edited book about stepfamilies with Susan Stewart from Iowa State.

One of Dr. Limb's favorite moments of the year was taking the second year MSW students to the WWII Japanese Internment Camp at Topaz near Delta, Utah last March. He also traveled to Washington DC to oversee the Washington Seminar program. While there, the students worked at Miriam's Kitchen, an organization that serves the homeless population in the area. He also enjoyed participating at CSWE and SSWR this year.



One of **Dr. Stacey Shaw's** biggest trips this year was her August 2017 venture to Malaysia, where she collaborated with members of the local Rohingya and Afghan communities to develop new parenting supports for refugee families. She is now in the process of producing the intervention manual and hopes to begin the first round of treatment soon. She also conferred with partners in the community about a study investigating spirituality among those at a particularly high risk of contracting HIV in Malaysia. At BYU, she currently teaches Social Welfare Policy, Human Behavior and Social Environment, and Community Organization.

Dr. Shaw also attended the annual conferences for the Society for Social Work and Research and the Global Awareness Society International. She presented a paper at the latter event entitled *Implications of the World War II U.S. Refugee Resettlement Efforts of Cecilia Razovsky and Varian Fry* and was pleased to be accompanied by BYU emeritus professor Dr. Michael Seipel and his wife for the occasion.



Wendy Sheffield has been as busy as ever organizing the logistics of internship placements. This year she invited representatives from each agency to present information on their respective organizations to prospective interns on campus. The purpose was to give the students a feel for each potential placement so that they could make informed choices on who to interview with. She also updated the field fair preference forms due to agency feedback.

Wendy was also instrumental in bringing a new online virtual simulation software to the MSW program. The tutorial, called Kognito, allows budding therapists to get a feel for clinical work in a risk-free environment. Along with two of her colleagues, Wendy has been involved in trauma certification classes that will enable the School of Social Work to expand its offerings to students. She enjoys spending time with her one-year-old granddaughter and is anxiously anticipating her trip to Maui in March.



Dr. Cory Dennis' research this year targeted addiction and ranged from gambling risk factors to 12-step programs. He has also planned future research projects that utilize everyday practice data to study the treatment of substance use disorders. He serves in ongoing supervisory and consultation capacities with therapists who provide day treatment for people with substance use disorders at Steps Recovery Center. The CSWE and SSWR conferences Dr. Dennis attended were other important highlights of the year. He enjoyed both events and said that he appreciated getting a better feel for the direction social work is heading.



In October 2017, **Dr. David Wood** was formally inducted into the Motivational Interviewing Network of Trainers (MINT), an elite group of teaching professionals dedicated to the high caliber instruction of Motivational Interviewing techniques. Prior to being admitted to attend the Training for New Trainers held in Malahide, Ireland, he was required to submit a recording of himself performing MI, which was scrutinized for competency. He says that he looks forward to integrating Motivational Interviewing more fully into the training of BYU MSW students.

Dr. Wood and his assistants have also spent significant time researching suicidality in veterans and help-seeking behavior in current service members. They found that there are significant differences in risk factors between veterans and nonveterans who die by suicide, differences that will hopefully be used to hone suicide prevention efforts in the future. Dr. Wood's research team also discovered that there are many variables that successfully predict when service members will access mental health services, including a history of suicidal ideation and attitudes toward mental health treatment.



Kristin Lambert continues to speak in wards and stakes in Salt Lake about depression. At BYU, she teaches a variety of courses including Social Work Practice with Individuals and Advanced Clinical Practice. She also serves as a supervisor for the first year Clinical Practicum class. In that role, she guides a handful of students through the intricate process of providing services to their first clients.



Professor Jini Roby continues to follow her passion of contributing to the discussion of the global issues involved with child welfare and child protection. In June 2017 she attended a conference in Montreal, Canada hosted by the International Society for Child Indicators, which gathered an international array of researchers, policymakers, and other professionals to provide information about the latest research relevant to vulnerable children. She hosted a panel there on reintegrating children from orphanages back into families and communities

in order to highlight the accumulating research on the favorability of family and community resources over institutions and to advocate for shifting the focus of charity and volunteer efforts to places that will best benefit at-risk children. This year she has published two papers: One on Kenya's fledgling domestic adoption practices in light of the nation's tumultuous international adoption scandals, and another about emergent federal and state policies in the United States regarding domestic minor sex trafficking. She has several other papers under review about the state of vulnerable children and families around the world. She is currently contributing to the development of social work practice and training standards for Cambodia and has partnered with the Global Social Welfare Workforce Alliance to draft a global strategy paper for UNICEF that addresses violence against children.

Dr. Shawna Lee Visits BYU, Discusses Re- search on Corporal Punishment

Corporal punishment isn't about the child, says Shawna Lee of the Parenting in Context Lab at the University of Michigan. It's about the parents' own issues that they need to work through for themselves.

Dr. Lee, who visited BYU campus in November to present her research to a 2nd year MFT class, specializes in investigating the parental use of physical punishment. One of her primary foci is understanding the rationale parents use for harsh discipline and its actual effects on the child.

"They have a hard time seeing this from the child's perspective," she explained, describing how modeling and teaching empathy can potentially shift parents' viewpoints. She also described the



Dr. Shawna Lee of the University Michigan is a leading expert on the parental use of physical punishment. To learn more about her work, please visit www.parentingincontext.org/



results of an innovative study that coded online comments for a news article on physical punishment to capture the array of arguments parents use to excuse their behavior. Prominent themes included attributing the ills of society to a lack of discipline, following religious norms, feeling that children have too much power, believing that spanking is more effective than other forms of discipline, and having been spanked themselves as a child without perceiving any resultant harm. In other words, spanking often stems from parents' skewed perceptions of their children's worldviews and is tainted by their own anecdotal experiences. Spanking seems to work in the short term, which sometimes reinforces it as a discipline of choice.



In actuality, says Dr. Lee, spanking is associated with child aggression and less than optimal behavioral regulation. Further, while children who are spanked are more likely to have positive outcomes if there is also high maternal warmth, affection and corporal punishment are separate processes that don't have to go together.

Dr. Lee elaborated on a number of interventions being used to combat the proliferation of corporal punishment. One of the most creative was the use of picture books. The books included positive examples of parents disciplining in effective, nonphysical ways. The hope was that parents who read them to their children will incorporate the superior discipline strategies described in their own parenting. Another method of cognitive re-

training involves reframing parents' negative attributions of their child's behavior using Motivational Interviewing tactics. In this intervention, the clinician asks a parent to generate a variety of possible motives for their child's behavior until the parent identifies one that doesn't reflect negatively on the child. Then the motive is more fully explored.

Regardless of the method, explained Dr. Lee, the target population of parents for discipline interventions is "the group in the middle" -- those who aren't already adamantly for or against corporal punishment. The incidence of physical punishment is going down overall across the country, says Dr. Lee, a phenomenon that has optimistic implications for the future.

Dr. Eric Carter Spells Out What it Means to Belong at Annual Marjorie Pay Hinckley Lecture

Belongingness is a need we all share, but for too many in our communities, that need can be drowned out by perceived differences. Dr. Eric Carter is an expert on the barriers people with disabilities face to integration in faith communities, and it was his mission during the annual Marjorie Pay Hinckley Lecture to inspire his audience to examine the way their personal actions contribute or detract from the integration of others.

From his extensive analysis of comments made by parents of children with disabilities, Dr. Carter identified ten key principles that are necessary for such young people to achieve full belonging in their respective congregations. These include being present, invited, welcomed, known, accepted, supported, cared for, befriended, needed, and loved.



Throughout the lecture, Dr. Carter emphasized the need for individual action. Relationships, not programs, produce the sense of community people seek. "Belonging is not about location," he said. "It is much more about posture than about place." Unfortunately, however, neglecting the simple choices that could make a world of difference is all too common. One in three parents leave their congregation because their child with a disability isn't welcome, while 56% keep them home because of a lack of support. It is what each individual child feels when they are at church that really matters. People are not fellowshiped in the aggregate, but rather one by one.



MARJORIE PAY HINCKLEY

Endowed Chair in Social Work and the Social Sciences

Churchgoers with disabilities should not be known *about* but without being known *personally*. They should be known by their names, not by labels, and recognized for their strengths, not for their limitations. That is the future Dr. Carter envisions. He hopes for a religious society in which persons with disabilities are embraced without condition, considered indispensable members of the body, and loved in ways that service systems were never designed for. Because the deepest special needs that people with disabilities carry aren't really special at all. They are the human needs that make us all the same.

MSW Student Association



President:
Kaitlin P. Ward

Secretary:
Jordan Bybee

Activities Chair:
Nathan Porter
Taylor Kevern
Jessica Meyers

**Graduate Student
Society Liaison:**
Kelsey Hamstead
Amelia Hilbert

**Advisory Council
Representative:**
Selina Miller
Ashley Mendoza

Mentor Liaison:
Delanie Doyle
Chase Morgan

Faculty Liaison:
Bethany Breck
Joel Wallis

**NASW
Representatives:**
Heather Walker
Candice Illum



MSWSA Opening Social

This year the MSWSA opening social was a part potluck, part barbecue affair designed to get the first and second year students to mingle. There was just one problem: Due to a scheduling mix-up, the large pavilion originally planned for the event was already occupied, relegating the proceedings to a much smaller one a football field away.

But the predicament wasn't all bad, said Kelley Sykes, a first year student. "I think that booking the small pavilion forced us to talk to each other. I could put faces with names." The event was well attended and afforded both cohorts to interact on a level they hadn't yet had the opportunity to.

"It was nice to get to meet the second year students and talk with my mentor," said another student.

Students, Spouses Dress to Impress at MSW Christmas Party Ugly Sweater Competition



It's true what they say: Ugly sweater competition accolades aren't everything. But for the 60+ attendees of the annual MSW Christmas Party, they sure went a long way. Decked out in their season's finest, contestants sported holiday garb featuring a leg lamp a la *A Christmas Story*, real glowing Christmas lights, and what looked to be the product of a yuletide scrapbook shop explosion. Allegations of predisposition of the judges were filed against the winner, who was purportedly holding a baby who was neither ugly nor wearing a sweater at the time of his victory, but the MSWSA Commission On Gaming And Apparel Competition Affairs was awed by the baby's cuteness and let it slide.

The competition was immediately preceded by a scrumptious dinner, which consisted of ham, potatoes, salad, and BYU brownies and blondies. There was good representation from both cohorts, as well as many spouses and children. The MSWSA leadership, who orga-

nized the event, also led the group in a game that involved taking turns tearing open cardboard boxes sealed by copious amounts of tape while wearing gloves. The party organizers achieved a favorable balance between structured activities and opportunity for informal chatter. A good time was had by all.

Ugly sweater contest participants await the verdict with bated breath. Chase Morgan (far right) was named the winner.



MSW Students Shocked, Awed, by Topaz Japanese Internment Camp

A feeling of reverence swept over the cohort. The weight of what had happened in that very spot bit uncomfortably into their shoulders, resting on the place almost exactly between the values their social work training had taught them and the patriotic devotion they felt for the United States. If an outsider were to peek in at just that moment, they might even catch a glimpse of the tail-tell flicker of flame in the eyes of the students as they looked on, burning brightly with indignation that social neglect could stretch so far as to let a few influential people with the public ear instill enough wartime hysteria into the political leaders of the day to justify panicked action at its most unreasonable. Yet there was also awe; awe at the capacity of the human soul to flourish in even the most trying of circumstances. Students and staff alike drifted from one exhibit to another,



absorbing the spoken-yet-unspoken whispers of Japanese-American history. One word lingered on every tongue: Why?

Many students, even a few who were born and raised in Utah, were surprised to learn that the flat desert just west of Delta is home to the remains of Topaz, one of the ten Japanese Internment Camps created during World War II to house Japanese-American citizens. From 1942 until 1945, 11,212 people of Japanese descent were required to live in the middle of nowhere with dust, extreme temperatures, close quarters, and insufficient shelter, for fear that their prior loyalty to the Enemy would persuade them to turn against their naturalized country in its hour of darkest need.

Dr. Limb's Organizational Governance/Executive Leadership course, which consisted of the entire 2017 graduating class, visited this site on April 6, 2017. They also toured the nearly-completed museum. It was filled with artifacts from the camps, stories of the people who lived there, and a



record of the series of policies that had led to the absolute moral debacle that was the internment program. It was heartbreaking to read that the government had condemned its own people with no proof that they were spies or conspirators, especially considering that none of the people sent to the camps was ever found guilty of conspiracy of any kind.

It was little consolation to learn that, “The Report of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians determined that the camps were the result of, ‘race prejudice, war hysteria, and a failure of political leadership,’” – that fact was pretty obvious. But like a ray of light shin-

ing through dark clouds after a hurricane, the very people who could have curled up in a corner and withered away instead used their time and talents to build. They made chairs, tables, and drawers out of crate

*"You cannot
reduce this story
to 24,000 words."*

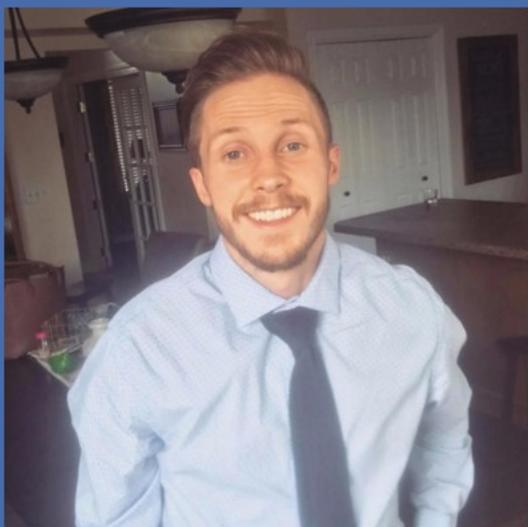
—Jane Beckwith

wood, jewelry out of shells, paintings from very limited supplies, and even a home movie filled with smiling children. Despite being robbed of their rights, homes, money, and other possessions, the camp residents transformed their jail into a place of freedom. Even from a situation of darkness, they chose to emit the light of gleaming innovation. It was a testament to the human spirit; it was a tribute to its ability to rise and thrive and heal in the face of incredible obstacles. Is this not the social worker's call - to inspire beauty from ashes?

"It is just really sad that people discriminate against a whole group of people because

of the actions of other people," a member of the cohort said after the visit. Many felt anew the inner drive to use their professional expertise as a lever to lift the world to a higher plane of existence. Some, perhaps all, left with a renewed determination to stand for justice, protect the undefended, and call for love to cast out fear from the hearts of their fellow citizens. Jane Beckwith, a museum director and tour guide, was instrumental in the creation of the museum. "My father employed one of the residents," she told the students. "There were 120,000 people interned, so they say there are 120,000 stories. But that's not true, because my family has a story too. There are many more stories." She related how, when tasked with telling the story of Japanese internment through the exhibits of the museum, they were limited to 24,000 words. "You cannot reduce this story to 24,000 words," she said. She was right. So here are 734 more.





BYU MSW Student Taylor Kevern Prevents Flood Damage, Named AmeriCorps Member of the Month

Near the end of his first year in BYU's Master of Social Work program, Taylor Kevern was in the middle of his first internship serving as an AmeriCorps member at Primary Children's Residential Treatment Center when he learned of a needy family in his ward whose home was in great danger of flood damage. Although his primary responsibilities as an Americorps member were limited to conducting individual and family therapy in the hospital's residential treatment center, his compassion to help and lift others inspired him to go beyond the minimum requirements of his internship in true social work fashion.

Rather than standing idle or punting the responsibility to someone with more experience, Taylor took matters into his own hands. After mobilizing a group of volunteers to help, Taylor led them in cleaning, digging trenches, laying foundation work, and installing structural walls to protect the home from further damage from future storms. The family did not have the funds to provide the materials or the labor necessary to complete the project, so without the assistance of Taylor and his associates, the home probably would have remained the way it was. AmeriCorps called Taylor's efforts "an exceptional reflection of the AmeriCorps pledge in that it strengthened the community through service to fellow citizens." Despite its ambitious scope, the project was completed in a single Saturday. More importantly, the security and peace of mind given freely to a family in need will last for years to come.



New Grad Students Feel Support, Community At MSW Orientation

Orientation was a great opportunity to meet all of our professors," said, Rebecca Wigington, a new entrant to the BYU MSW program. "I liked having them all in one place." While informing the students of the administrative details of the social work program was an important purpose of the orientation for new graduate students held on September 1st, 2017, of equal importance was the formation of a culture of support and optimism among the participants.

"I liked to interact with my professors and fellow students in an informal way," remarked another student. "It took away some of the apprehension."

The leadership of the faculty was a driving force behind an emerging feeling of cohesion between the new cohort and their future teachers, a cohesion that solidified as the event wore on. As each professor took turns running activities and giving presentations, the beginnings of new relationships with the students began to form. They projected amiability and open-

ness, making it easier for the new cohort to trust and relate to them. During lunch, professors sat with their advisees to foster further connections on an individual basis. The new MSW candidates were urged to meet with their faculty advisors frequently throughout the semester, especially when they ran into difficulties in the program or their personal lives that called for particular attention.

Wendy Sheffield, the Field Director for the School, taught the students important skills they would need to be successful in the social work program such as good self-care, time management, and prioritizing learning over grades. "All of you are here for a reason," she said. "Our goal is to help each of you to graduate."

Dr. Limb, the Director of the School, discussed the aims of a BYU education and the unique opportunity afforded by the program to learn in a spiritually-enriching, character-building environment. He underscored the commitment of the faculty to facilitate the multidimensional growth of every student. His comments were accented by a short documentary on the founding of the BYU social work program which highlighted the inspiration and



Jan Scharman, BYU Student Life Vice President

divine guidance that had contributed to its creation, the kind of guidance that the new class hoped would flow into their own studies in the coming months.

Jan Scharman, BYU Student Life Vice President, added the encouragement and support of the university administration as she further elaborated on the centrality of the aims of a BYU education based on recent comments made by the University President. She spoke of how BYU's unique position as both a teaching and a research institution is intended to maximize the growth of the students. She also highlighted the difference between conceptualizing and applying information by relating a personal experience in which focusing on avoiding failure instead of approaching success had led her to endure an embarrass-

ing moment during the induction of a new BYU president. Finally, she strove to inspire hope in the impact that the prospective master's degree candidates would have on the populations they would serve by recounting the story of a client of her own who seemed to have struggled beyond all hope for a healthy outcome, but who eventually went on to graduate and live a successful life in part because of the influence of her therapist.

Overall, the New Graduate Student Orientation was a positive and unifying experience that set an optimistic tone for the next two years of rigorous graduate study for the newly minted MSW Class of 2019.

School of Social Work National Advisory Council Offers Perspectives From The Field



The social work members of the College National Advisory Council (NAC), com-

posed of veteran social workers from across the nation who have special connections with BYU, took time out of their busy schedules to offer their seasoned perspectives to first year MSW students as part of a special presentation on internship preparedness.

Though they come from all walks of the field, the NAC is united in their commitment to social work and to BYU. They each shared specific advice on what the students should do to most fully take advantage of their internship experiences. "An internship is an oppor-

tunity to discover what your passion is," said Mike Rowley, who is an administrator at a residential treatment center in South Carolina. Internships help students assess their talents and evaluate what issues they feel most strongly about. "Know what your supervisor expects," was another recommendation by an NAC member. Supervisors vary considerably in their likes and expectations, so staying closely attuned to their preferences is essential for a positive internship experience.

Other counsel included getting to know the names of the workers at intern agencies, taking an active role in staff meetings and program administration, taking advantage of obstacles that push careers down unforeseen paths, and using physical objects as reminders not to own clients problems. On a humorous note, MiLinda Hudnall of the Veterans Administration in Orem described how a fellow therapist kept a monkey in their office to remind him not to "let the monkey get on his back."

The MSW students felt uplifted by the experience. One student said, "They gave some very practical tips: 'Be yourself, figure out who you are.' It's for me to figure out who I am as a social worker." Many students were so captivated by the professional interests of the council members that they stayed after to chat with them individually. Others took copious notes. "I liked how they said 'Do the basic interviewing skills and you'll be fine.'" said Zachary Larkin, another first year student. "I felt better about doing interviews after that." The four members of the national advisory council in attendance were MiLinda Hudnall, Deb Checketts, Kerri Robinson, and Mike Rowley.



National Association of Social Workers

The National Association of Social Workers Wants YOU!

The NASW actively recruits BSW and MSW students, as well as graduates and long-time teachers, administrators, and clinicians. Come be a part of an organization instrumental to the evolution of the social work profession and make a personal impact on national program planning and policy development

For membership information, visit the website of the Utah Chapter of NASW at www.utnasw.org or call 801-583-8855

New On-Campus Internship Agency Presentations Lay Informational Foundations For Future Careers

As many professionals know, the advantage--and great difficulty--of an MSW degree is the sheer variety of possible career options. While the dilemma of where to invest one's professional life post-grad school will be around for years to come in social work, the school's new program aimed at familiarizing first year MSW students with the kicks and giggles of local agencies ahead of the internship selection process will at least make the choice an informed one.



Wendy Vincent and Collette Dawson-Loveless, Greenhouse



Roy Bickel, Utah State Prison

Almost every Friday from September 15 to November 10, representatives of local agencies gathered in a small windowless room in the basement of the Joseph Fielding Smith Building to woo promising graduate students into interning at their respective organizations. The program was set up to provide students with adequate information to make difficult decisions regarding where they want to be placed this coming Spring/Summer and Fall/Winter, which will in turn have an enormous influence on their future career choices.

"I have a lot better idea of what options there are

and what options I'm interested in," said, Aislinn Watson, one of the students who attended.

The agency presenters did a good job articulating the unique opportunities and challenges their particular organizations would provide an aspiring clinician. They also fielded a variety of questions ranging from the type of supervision they offered to scheduling flexibility and restrictions. Representing everything from residential treatment to private practice, the agencies demonstrated the great breadth and depth of the social services available in Salt Lake and Utah counties.

"It was enlightening to find out generally what's out there in the community," said another student.

Three MSW Students Shine At 2017 Mary Lou Fulton Conference



Far left:
Tiana
Hoffman
Top
right:
Chase
Morgan
Bottom
left:
Helena
Haueter

She hadn't started the program yet, but she was already making headlines. Tiana Hoffman, a sociology major bound for BYU's MSW program, blew away the judges at the annual Mary Lou Fulton poster conference in April 2017, taking first place overall. Her poster,

entitled "Does sibship size influence adolescent risk behavior?", reported that the number of siblings a child has differentially predicts age at which risk behaviors begin, but while a larger sibship size forecasts a later age for some activities, for others it indicates an earlier start.

In the social work category, Chase Morgan and Helena Haueter took top prizes. Chase found that while more affordable treatment was related to a longer length of stay in substance abuse treatment programs, having health insurance was not.¹ In the future, he hopes to investigate differences in treatment length indicators between in-patient and out-patient settings. Helena investigated significant predictors of suicide in veterans and discovered that military males who died by suicide were more likely to have had physical health problems than non military males. Risk factors that were lower in military men included previous suicide attempts, relationship problems, and alcohol dependence.

¹ Lunnen, Madelyn (2017). Fulton Winner Researches Substance Abuse Treatment. *College of Family, Home, And Social Sciences* retrieved from: <https://fhssbyu.com/2017/07/21/fulton-winner-researches-substance-abuse-treatment/>

February Grand Rounds: How Motivational Interviewing Can Supplement Your Practice



Dr. Ben Ogles (left) and Dr. Dave Wood (right) presented at February's Grand Rounds

Have you ever wanted to tell someone in your life to shape up their act? If so, you're relatively normal, says Dr. Dave Wood and Dr. Ben Ogles, presenters at February's Grand Rounds at the BYU's Comprehensive Clinic. Our natural instinct is often to tell others what to change and why they should. There's only one problem: It's often not effective.

But Motivational Interviewing (MI) is a different approach. Heralded as more of a "way to be with clients" than an actual modality, MI draws out the reasons people already have for changing and works to amplify them. The concept is straightforward, explained the two seasoned clinicians, but is often difficult to implement. The therapist simply encourages the client to talk as much as possible about their reasons to change, called "change talk," and as little as reasonably possible about their desire to keep the status quo, or "sustain talk." At the same time, stressed the presenters, competent MI practitioners aren't afraid of resistance to change on the part of the client. "We don't freak out when our clients are ambivalent or stuck," says Dr. Wood. To some degree MI is designed to help clients make up their own

minds about difficult decisions rather than impose the will of the clinician on them.

It may seem like MI is just for therapists, but it has a broad range of applications among many types of professionals including parole officers, case workers, and weight loss trainers. And while it may seem that the approach is time intensive, the reality is that MI is quiet efficient in terms of the amount of change clients actually adopt as a result of intervention. As Dr. Ogles emphasized, "You don't have enough time *not* to do MI." Those with an interest in incorporating MI into their professional practice can find more information by visiting motivationalinterviewing.org or picking up a copy of *Motivational Interviewing: Helping People Change, 3rd Edition* by William Miller, one of the founders of MI.



Kognito Interactive Role Play Simulator Makes A Splash With New MSW Students

It isn't virtual reality, but it may be the next best thing.

Starting Fall 2017, first year MSW students can now teleport all of the quirks

and nuances of real life interventions into the comfort of their bedrooms. Paid for by BYU, the new Kognito online learning program introduces students to the underpin-

nings of basic therapy skills without the nerves and liability of real in-person interviews. Students of the Soc W 660 Direct Practice class participate in the Screening & Brief Intervention with Adolescents training course, an online instructional series that walks the user through the Brief Intervention structure and explores key concepts such as building rapport, using different types of reflection, and discussing pros and cons of an issue, all based on principles from Motivational Interviewing. Then students can put their new-found skills to the test in a series of three interactive scenarios that require them to intervene in behalf of adolescents with substance abuse issues. The virtual teenagers react in realistically diverse ways depending on the quality of the selected responses and express differing levels of motivation to change. Students can move forward and backward through each scenario to try a variety of responses and observe how the tone of the interview shifts based on the answers provided.

Overall, the new MSW students' responses to the program have been positive. "I loved Kognito because I was able to take what I learned in the simulation and use it in session in the comprehensive clinic" said Jessica Meyers, a first year MSW student. Other participants reported that the program gave them needed examples of what a therapist might actually say during an intervention. Of course, Kognito can't account for the diverse and often unexpected twists and turns of actual therapeutic situations, and it definitely isn't a replacement for real client experiences. But for the new social work student stumbling through the beginning stages of conducting competent professional therapy for the first time, it's a good start.

WHERE ARE YOU?

**We Need Information About Your
Professional and Family Activities!**

**Send information to: socialwork@byu.edu
Please include your degree and year (i.e. MSW, 2012)**

MSW Class of 2019

Ashley started work at the state hospital two years before sending in her

application for the BYU MSW program and many years after her childhood in Cedar Hills, Utah. In her free time she loves

making wedding cakes and other baked goods. Although she loves the versatility of being able to work with a wide variety of populations as a social worker, she hopes to eventually focus her efforts on adolescents.



{ ASHLEY ALLEN }

Inspired by a tragic death in the family, South-Georgia-grown Jen

Wright decided to go back to school to work toward helping bereaved families in the community

cope after deep loss. She feels happy about being surrounded by and learning from so many great students in the program and remains convinced that CokeZero found its way to BYU entirely by virtue of her prayers.



{ JEN WRIGHT }



Ashley has always been obsessed with smelling good. "You can always count on me having body spray or lotion in my backpack,"

{ ASHLEY MENDOZA }

she says. Her dedication to enhancing the finer points of life extends to her social work service. She is particularly interested in school social work because she grew up seeing the difficulties many families went through as well as the great supports that schools provided them. She loves the holistic approach of social work and hopes that it will help her become a more humble, competent, and understanding clinician.

While working as an CSW for three years after his bachelor's degree, Wesley discovered that he enjoys working with just about any population. Uniquely, that also includes the dead, as he has previously held a job at a cemetery. He hails from Stockton, CA, but staked claim for his alma mater a couple states east at BYU



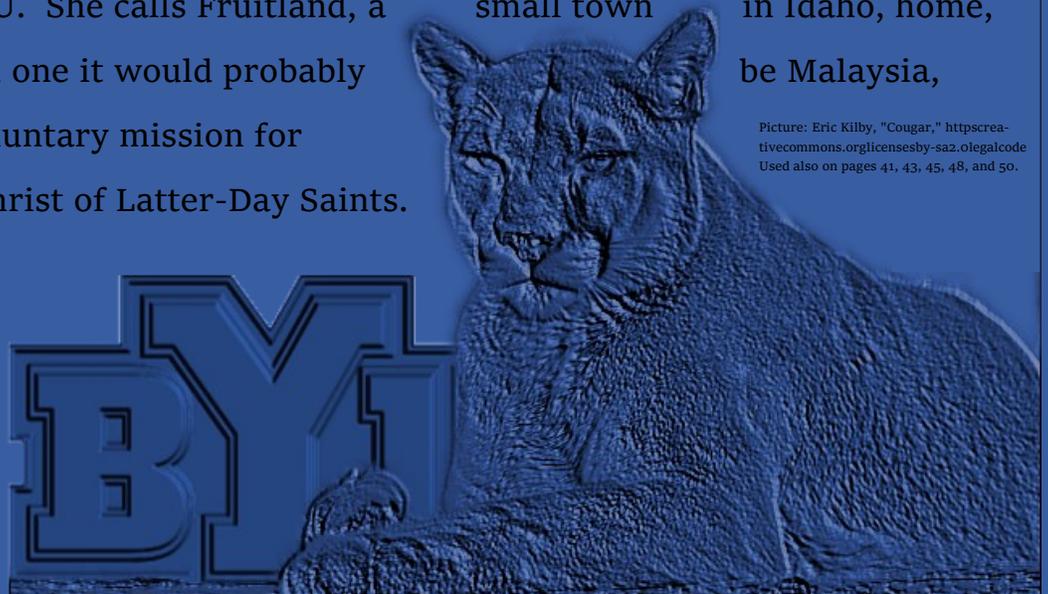
{ WESLEY FARRENS }

Idaho. He is the father of two children.

Adults with learning disabilities and dual diagnosis clients have been her focus in the past, but Beccah says she's still open to working with all populations. She feels that helping others reach their full potential is a worthy cause, and that is the focus of her education at BYU. She calls Fruitland, a small town in Idaho, home, but if she had a second one it would probably be Malaysia, where she served a voluntary mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.



{ BECCA ROBERTS }



Picture: Eric Kilby, "Cougar," <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/legalcode>
Used also on pages 41, 43, 45, 48, and 50.

Who worked with refugee teenage boys in Berlin last semester and has a last name that rhymes with 'bikes?' Kelly! Both student and teacher, Kelly has taught 101 and 102 level German courses



{ KELLY SYKES }

Colorado Springs, CO. She comments that she appreciates how her fellow students all want to be friends and join in with everyone else because that feels right to her.

Jessica has fallen in love with a variety of things in her life. The most important was the chance she took after a blind date in 2015 to follow her heart, leading her to plow headlong into a relationship with her future husband. Later, while completing an internship with Provo School District, she was enamored by school social work, which has informed her current career interests and shaped her love of work with children and adolescents. Then, after comparing the MSW and MFT programs, she fell head over heels for how diverse the social work profession is and ultimately resulted in her joining the program. Her pastime loves include baking, making new foods, and being from Las Vegas, Nevada.



Corey is impressed by the sense of mutual interest he feels in the cohort. To him, it feels like everyone is inter-



ested in the learning and overall experience of everyone else in the program. He is well-versed in end of life care and hospice, hav-

{ COREY ASTLE } ing worked in those areas for some time following his bachelor's degree. Orem and Greece are important places to him, the former being where he grew up and the latter the locality of his LDS mission.



Rebecca feels strongly that the elderly have contributed significantly to society and deserve quality end of life care. That is one of the reasons why she volunteers in hospice and nursing homes and considers older adults one of her populations of interest. She enjoys listening to Latin music, country dancing, and being a native of Wisconsin. She graduated with her degree in psychology and a minor in sociology in April 2017.

Although a BYU graduate like many of her fellow students, Danielle stands apart from her cohort as the lone research emphasis student in the MSW class of 2019. She is especially interested in studying the socialization of gender in adolescence and hopes to one day work with the prison system to inspire positive change. She has travelled frequently due to her husband's career and is currently writing the "book" for a musical theater show.



show. She is from Carlsbad,



Carlsbad, California. She is from Carlsbad, California.

{ DANIELLE CALDER }

Amelia is the cohort member that lives the farthest away: She's from Melbourne, Australia. But she's been to 13 other countries often enough to develop a love for European chocolate. She



{ AMELIA HILBERT }

hopes that the program at BYU will stretch her further and provide the op-

portunity to create lasting friendships.

She has a wide range of social work experience stretching from a psychiatric hospi-

tal to general medicine to working with people who have traumatic brain injuries.

The proud holder of Certifications in Legal Studies and Court Mediation,

Tanra takes her negotiation skills into her newly blended family that includes nine children and two grandchildren. She hopes to extend her passion for facilitating family stability to her work as a clinician. She has interned for Congressman



{ TANRA CORNELL }

Chaffetz and worked previously for LDS Employment services. Tanra enjoys hiking (particularly in canyons), dancing (especially in ballrooms) and playing sports (mainly on softball fields). Her unique skills include: construction, home repair, welding, electrical work, auto and appliance repair, and gardening.



Aislinn had a Music minor to go with her bachelor's degree in Psychology when she graduated from BYU

{ AISLINN WATSON } in 2016. She wants to become more empathetic, driven, and ready to make a difference in her sphere of influence during her time in the MSW program. She grew up near Grand Rapids Michigan and has been married for almost a year. Aislinn has worked for Wasatch Mental Health as well as with children with autism and their families.



What does being Canadian, serving as a Naval Combat Information Operator, and working hard being a

{ ANDREW RENICK } stay-at-home dad have in common? The first name Andrew. Andrew spent his first year of marriage in Belgium, enjoys taking care of animals, and appreciates social work's wide focus on addressing social needs. He is particularly interested in preventing suicide and working at both the micro and macro levels.

Emma anticipates experiencing an incredible amount of personal growth during her time in the BYU MSW program. Living in Peoria, Arizona didn't stop her from becoming a 3rd generation BYU student, and neither did her enthusiasm for bargain shopping (which rivals her avidity for major holidays), or her "deep love for potatoes." Through her social work studies, Emma the type of person that can understand and love found level and who has the them in the way they need.

hopes to become others on a pro- tools to help



{ EMMA WORLTON }



Gavin has an odd array of interests stretching from Owl City music to Kierkegaard-style existential philosophy. In social work, he has always been inspired by the way individuals can intervene at critical



{ GAVIN CHATTERLEY }

moments in people's lives, and do so as a career! Gavin is touched by the way his fellow students have given up more potentially lucrative fields in order to help people for a living

and hopes to have a positive influence on them as well as his clients. He is a native of Sandy, Utah and has been married to his wife, Elizabeth, for less than a year. In his spare time he enjoys blogging and watching animated cartoons designed for children.

Kristen isn't sure what to anticipate during her graduate studies at BYU, but she hopes that it will involve the multidimensional fluidity she associates with social work. Though she was born in Canada, Kristen now claims New Jersey and Alpine, Utah as home.



{ KRISTEN GRANT }

She has lived in a total of 4 countries for extended periods of time and has visited many more. Her work has been just as varied, from a residential treatment center to a foster home in the Caribbean to her current job at a

local pharmacy. Kristen isn't sure what population she wants to work with, but adolescents is a viable option.



{ CANDICE CHILD }

Candi was the 4th female to be commissioned through BYU's army ROTC program. She enjoys acting, teaching, and directing theater. Her eclectic tastes make her a good fit for social work, which she believes offers a wider range of possibilities than many other fields. She holds degrees in both Political Science and Psychology. At one point she considered earning her PhD in Psychology, but eventually opted for the shorter MSW route. Her passion is serving soldiers and veterans with PTSD who have sacrificed significantly for the country and deserve the highest care.

Sarah greatly anticipated taking her first year diagnostic class. Currently she is employed in the medical social work field at Brio Hospice. She loves singing, drawing, and chocolate, and is impressed by the way her fellow students have created a safe learning environment.



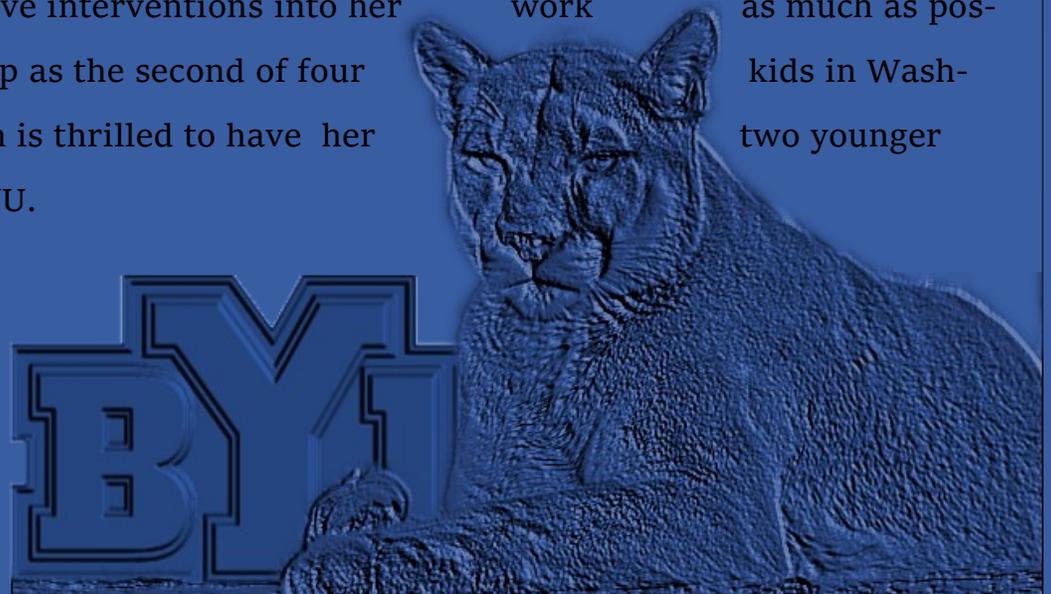
{ SARAH BOREN }

"I already feel like I can trust our cohort and be vulnerable," she says.

Savannah believes that every child deserves an adult who cares about them and believes in their ability to do good. That drive has fueled her desire to work with children as a social worker. She feels that prevention is critical and hopes to be able to incorporate preventative interventions into her work as much as possible. Having grown up as the second of four kids in Washington State, Savannah is thrilled to have her two younger siblings with her at BYU.



{ SAVANNAH ROLL }



If it involves good punctuation in text messages, puns, or cacti, Ben is in. Although his last name is pronounced shi-LAD-ee, you're as likely to hear him say it with a Spanish accent as English, given the decade he's spent as an instructor of his



beloved "Español." He loves **{ BEN SCHILATY }** the practical, clinical MSW offered by BYU and looks forward to becoming a competent mental health professional over the course of the program.

A native of the Seattle area and a lover of binge-watching reality game shows, Ben is

sure to have an insightful comment to offer no matter the occasion.

Emily is a big believer that the pun is mightier than the sword. She also loves working with kids because no matter what they have gone through, they can always find something to smile about. That childlike optimism was very helpful during her time working with Child Protective Services in both Utah and Arizona. Her own childhood was spent in central California with a brief foray to BYU to earn her bachelor's degree in family studies. She looks forward to being an advocate for change in the challenging social work field.



{ EMILY BLACKHURST }

Hannah's father has been a major source of inspiration for her interest in social work. Having seen how much he enjoyed his job has made her excited for the adventure ahead. While she's a little nervous about how her internships will play out, she is confident that they will be great experiences. Hannah says that she greatly anticipates the day when the skills she is learning in the program will naturally become a part of her. Although she is from American Fork, Utah, her devotion to the New York Yan-

kees knows no geographic bounds.



{ JOEL WALLIS }

Joel believes strongly that "trauma victim" is a condition that shouldn't exist. But since exist it does, he wants to be able to be a part of the healing process. He has spent the past four years at a residential treatment center for young men and many years prior bouncing around between Arizona and various parts of Utah County. He is a UVU Behavioral Science graduate and aspires to one day learn ASL and Russian. He likes that as a social worker he can wear many different hats such as clinician and advocate.



{ HANNAH DENNEY }

Tanya spent her childhood in Wisconsin, but the impact of her work has transcended state lines. Last year she had the rare opportunity to help develop program changes for Provo Canyon School's program for elementary aged patients. In the future, she hopes that her work with children will extend to those who have experienced trauma and need help building social and emotional skills. She also hopes to spend copious amounts of time with her nieces.



{ TANYA RUMLER }

ing social and emotional skills. She also hopes to spend copious amounts of time with her nieces.

Tiana feels empowered to do well in the MSW program thanks to the support that emanates from her fellow students. By the end of the next two years, she hopes to still be



{ TIANA HOFFMANN }

herself, but a version who has the skills to truly help others. She also hopes to have consumed generous amounts of Oreos, pies, and reality TV. She is another one of several BYU MSW students from Alpine, UT.

Hayley grew up in a town in northern Utah that was so small that she often jokes that moving to Utah County made her feel like she was in New York City. She hopes to be able to work with women who have body image difficulties because she feels it is a critical opportunity to remind them of their divine role and inherent worth. She enjoys listening to her classmates' comments and learning



{ HAYLEY FOX }

from their insights and inspiring others to see the selves.

and learning looks forward to best in them-



"I love...trying new yummy places to eat." From Rochester, Minnesota and married to a Utahan, Noelle has spent the last two summers doing summer sales in Tennessee with her husband. Though she has a stake in many parts of the country, microcommunity is important to her. She looks forward to getting to know her classmates better than she was able to for her undergrad. She likes going on walks and

working with all ages of clients. When she's not travelling, you can often find Noelle enrolled in classes at the gym: yoga,

Zumba, and all the classics!



{ NOELLE CLOWARD }

Jessica loves weightlifting, both heaving massive weights above her head as well as mentally lifting others' burdens through empathic therapeutic relationships. She especially anticipates helping to shoulder the concerns of those with mental health, addiction, and



{ JESSICA BAWDEN }

marriage problems. Maybe some of that stems from her husband, who swept her off her feet a year and a half ago and hasn't stopped since. Or maybe she gets it from the mental pick-me-up she feels every time she visits her hometown of Murray, Utah. Regardless, Jessica is excited for her classes and internships to press her into the best clinician she is capable of becoming.

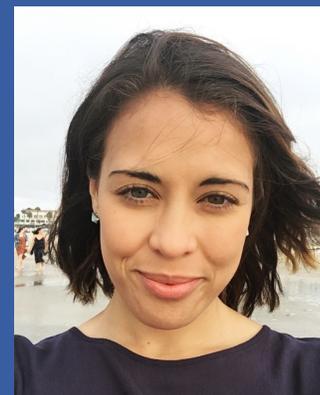
Amy graduated summa cum laude from her hometown university in Orem, Utah. She holds a bachelor's degree in Be-



{ AMY ADKINS }

havioral Science with an emphasis in Family Studies as well as self-proclaimed minor in Taco Bell burrito consumption. She loves the breadth of social work and the opportunity it provides to work with children with special needs and their families. Ultimately, she wants to use social work to reach her potential as a well-educated, productive, compassionate member of society.

Jade loves travelling. She speaks Polish and enjoys tasting European chocolate. But even more importantly she loves being a social worker, a fact that she is reminded of frequently as she works with cli-



{ JADE HURST }

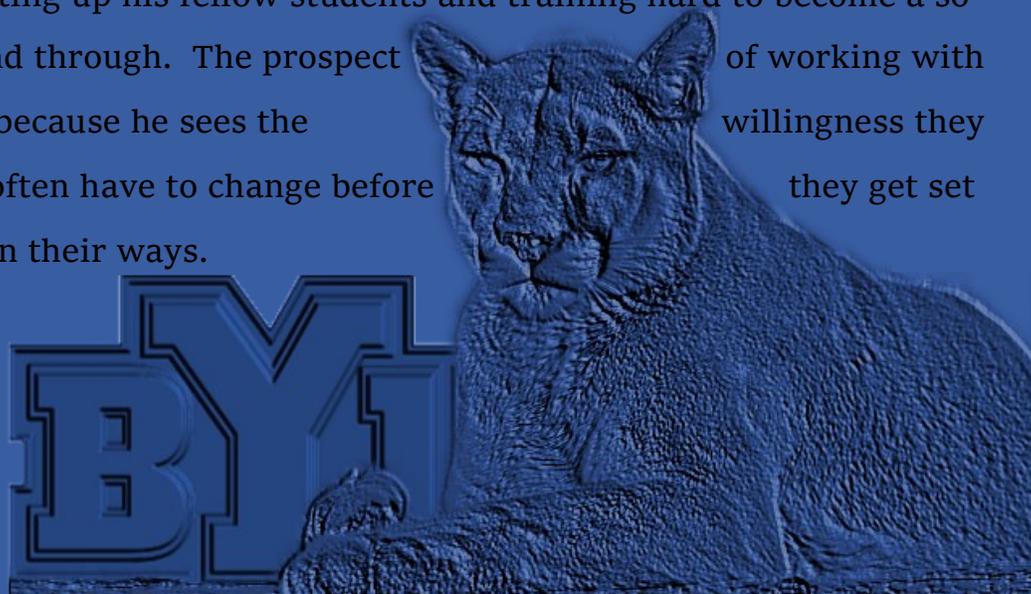
ents. In the past she has volunteered at the Road Home in Salt Lake and currently works for Utah Behavior Services. She appreciates that social work values case management more highly than many other fields.

The father of a six-month-old son, Zach is a man who loves olives. When he isn't perusing the Spaghetti Factory in Taylorsville (because the one in Provo just doesn't cut it), Zach likes chatting up his fellow students and training hard to become a social worker through and through. The prospect of working with teenagers excites him because he sees the willingness they



{ ZACHARY LARKIN }

often have to change before they get set in their ways.





{ CARLEY LISH }

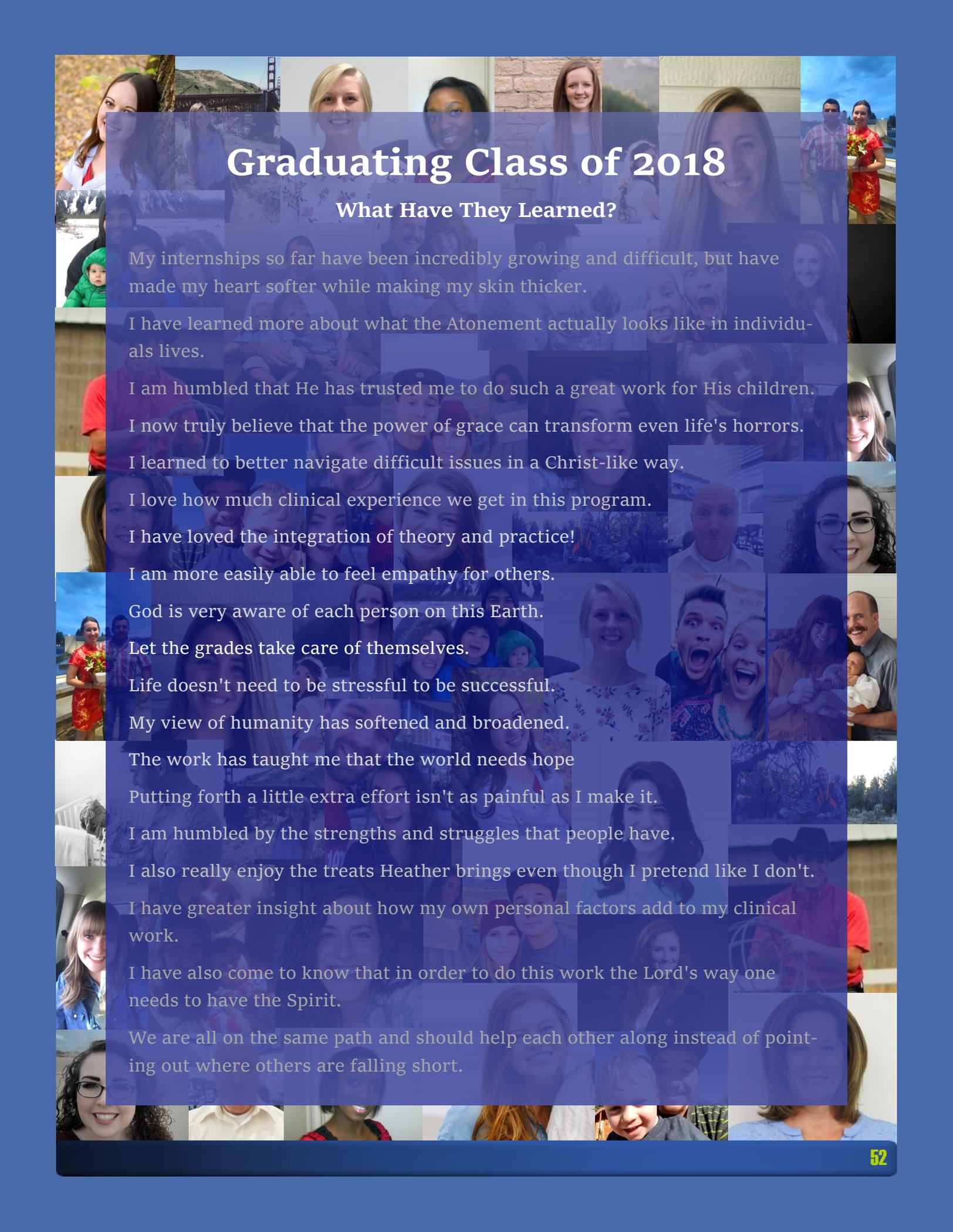
In another life, Carley would be a baker. In this one, she has lived in a variety of places including Idaho and North Carolina.

However, she still manages to bake for a wide variety of events including birthdays, quinceañeras, and gender reveals. She feels that the MSW program will be difficult, but very worth it. Carley believes it a great privilege to be able to help people for a career. In the past, she has interned as a case manager for a counseling center and as a middle school counselor.

Stephanie is getting better at setting limits for how much she takes on and absorbing mass quantities of textbook information. That's a good thing considering how often she anticipates having to do both of those things during her MSW. Her ambition has affected other aspects of her life, such as the moment when she decided to make her daughter's prom dress. She has five children, two sons-in-law, and lives in American Fork. She chose social work because it is a hands-on way to help others. She also loves the plethora of doors it will open for her.



{ STEPHANIE NIXON }



Graduating Class of 2018

What Have They Learned?

My internships so far have been incredibly growing and difficult, but have made my heart softer while making my skin thicker.

I have learned more about what the Atonement actually looks like in individuals lives.

I am humbled that He has trusted me to do such a great work for His children.

I now truly believe that the power of grace can transform even life's horrors.

I learned to better navigate difficult issues in a Christ-like way.

I love how much clinical experience we get in this program.

I have loved the integration of theory and practice!

I am more easily able to feel empathy for others.

God is very aware of each person on this Earth.

Let the grades take care of themselves.

Life doesn't need to be stressful to be successful.

My view of humanity has softened and broadened.

The work has taught me that the world needs hope

Putting forth a little extra effort isn't as painful as I make it.

I am humbled by the strengths and struggles that people have.

I also really enjoy the treats Heather brings even though I pretend like I don't.

I have greater insight about how my own personal factors add to my clinical work.

I have also come to know that in order to do this work the Lord's way one needs to have the Spirit.

We are all on the same path and should help each other along instead of pointing out where others are falling short.

ALUMNI UPDATES

Don Garner

BSW 1988 JD 1997
San Antonio, Texas
Disability Attorney



I am a disability attorney for the Army's Office of Soldiers Counsel. I work to represent injured or ill soldiers in the medical board and VA disability process.

Recent Activities

Adjunct professor at Our Lady of the Lake University School of Social Work.

Retirement Status

Nope not yet.

Favorite Memory From BYU

The friends I made and the National Championship.

All my kids are grown and gone now, 4 of the 6 are married, and one more is engaged. My husband has retired now. I have 4 grandsons ranging from 13 to 5 years old.

Laurie M Forbes

MSW 2008
Jefferson, Oregon
The Counseling Center

Recent Activities

I am working at a for profit agency, The Counseling Center, in Albany, Oregon. I do individual and group work, half my clients for individual therapy are veterans and all of my groups are for veterans. The rest of my clients are trauma survivors that usually have PTSD.

Favorite Memory From BYU

The friends from my cohort.

Marianne Parker Shows

BSW 1987
Louisiana
School Social Worker

My husband still loves to fish. Our children have all graduated from high school. My two step children have two boys each. Our third

child has earned her Associate Degree from University of Louisiana and our last child is in the Army at Fort Carson, Colorado. We are proud of them.

Recent Activities

I am the LCSW School Social Worker. My job is very rewarding. I complete evaluations for Special Education students and promote parent involvement.

Favorite Memory From BYU

BYU has a fantastic campus. I remember living close to the campus and walking to classes. The kindness from my classmates was so encouraging and the professors wanted us to be successful.

My wife Shar is pregnant with our second child. We are having a little girl who will be named Sage. She will be second to our son Louis.



Spencer Evans

MSW 2017
Pleasant Grove, Utah
Ascend Recovery

Recent Activities

I work at an inpatient substance abuse treatment center called Ascend Recovery.

Favorite Memory From BYU

The cohort and the experience as a whole. I loved the educational experience at the Y but am still a devote U of U football fan.



Carol Lynn Whitaker

MSW 2004

Medford, Oregon

Private Practice

My husband John, "graduated" from this earthly school Dec. 2015. We moved from Utah County to Medford, OR in 2010 and love the green. All of John's children (9) remain in SLC area, or Utah county except for 1 (California). Entering back into Private Practice and feeling great! Loving life!

Recent Activities

Attended A.M.C.A.P. conference in late September.

Retirement Status

Semi-Retired. Traveling, Family History combination (traveling with a purpose)

Favorite Memory From BYU

The professors: Dr. Kevin Marrott, Dr. Seipel, Dr. Pehrson, Dr. Cox, Dr. Panos and so many others. I enjoyed the cohort group immensely! I would like to know what they are all doing.

We currently are a family of 4. Elizabeth, "Lizzy," turned 3 in September, and Amelia, "Millie," turned 1 in September.

Andrew Layne

MSW 2012

Kaysville, Utah

Primary Children's

My husband, Richard retired from his second career from Alpine School District in 2013. We traveled around the country by RV for 6 months before settling in Payson. Together Richard and I have 10 children and 25 grandchildren with 1 more on the way.

Recent Activities

Last February I started my own practice, Healing Haven Counseling located in Springville, Utah. I mostly do EMDR with my clients.

I am EMDR certified.



Marilyn T Soto

MSW 2009

Payson, Utah

Private Practice

I have been

married for 7 years and have three daughters. I recently volunteered with the Red Cross doing Disaster Mental Health. There was a story on the Mormon Newsroom about the team of LDS Family Services counselors that came to Houston to volunteer with the Red Cross. You can watch it at: <http://www.mormonnewsroom.org/article/texas-strong---mental-health-counselors-complete-service>

Favorite Memory From BYU

One of my favorite memories from BYU was when one year my roommates and I wanted to go to homecoming but we couldn't afford tickets so we created our own homecoming with dinner and several different activities, like a photo scavenger hunt across campus and a dance party in the house we were renting.



Matt Law

BSW 2005

Houston, Texas

LDS Family Services

Colleen MacFarlane Percival

MSW 1997

Texas

Private Practice



My oldest child is a high school Senior, college bound in the Fall to study in the Social Sciences. She is a member of a pre-professional ballet company. 2nd child will be a high school freshman next year. He is actively involved in theater and performing in various school productions.

LCSW in private practice (Hidden Lakes Counseling) with 3 other therapists. Providing a variety of counseling services including individual, marriage/couples, group and family counseling. This often involves, working closely with Bishops and other church leaders in the area to address the emotional and mental health needs of those in their stewardship. My husband is the director of logistics and supply chain for an international helicopter company.

Recent Activities

I participate in an NASW-local chapter and Keller Counseling Association (a group of local counselors and therapist that meet together monthly to network and provide CEU's for one another based on each others specialties or preferred areas of practice).



Rodney McDowell

BSW 1987

The Dalles, Oregon

Behavioral Health Services

I have been married for 33 years with 4 children, two of which have graduated from BYU and are currently employed in advertising management and journalism. The other two are currently attending BYU, one majoring in International Relations and one ma-

joring in Electrical Engineering.

BYU was an excellent experience, providing an education which pre-

pared me to attend the graduate school of my choice. It was the foundation for starting a successful career in social work.

Recent Activities

I provide integrated behavioral health and physical health services at Mid Columbia Medical Center/Mid Columbia Outpatient Clinics

Favorite Memory From BYU

Dancing with the BYU International Folkdancers.

Betty Jo Sorenson

MSW 1983

Salt Lake City, Utah

Aetna Insurance

My kids are all grown and on their own. I enjoy them and also love my many extended family gatherings with siblings, their kids and grand-kids.

Recent Activities

I work for Aetna insurance in evaluating and managing the member's care.

Favorite Memory From BYU

Having Elder Holland as the President while I was there and his talks is a great memory. I enjoyed the beauty of the campus and having sisters also attending at the same time. We loved the Film Society and Concerts Impromptu and the Daily Universe. I loved the small class in graduate school and many of the professors who were mentors.

Carrie Nicholes

MSW 2008

Annapolis, Maryland

Family Counseling Center



I've been married to Dustin Nicholes since 2008. We currently have 3 children - ages 1, 4, and 7.

Recent Activities

I am a therapist at a family counseling center, working with children, adolescents, adults, couples, and families. I am also involved with AMCAP.

My family just moved to the Chicago, IL area for a new job. My husband and I have two daughter, ages 3 and 1.

Recent Activities

I stopped working once we moved to Illinois this past summer.

Favorite Memory From BYU

My cohort family :)



Teri Dawson

MSW 2011

Naperville, Illinois

Stay-at-home Mom

Our son is 11 months old and we just bought our first house.

Recent Activities

I attended several foster care events this year put on by my previous employer, RISE Services, Inc. I also spend a lot of time with my son, he keeps me busy.

Favorite Memory From BYU

Hanging out with the friends I made in my ward.



Shaleena Vincent

MSW 2013

San Tan Valley, Arizona

Stay-at-home Mom

I have 5 children, 9 grandchildren, and am blessed live with a wonderful wife.

Recent Activities

I spend my time travelling, working out with grandkids, working on organizing 1000s of family photos, volunteering at Marriage Encounter, participating in the Tucson Audubon Society, and serving my Brittany Spaniel with walks and talks.

Retirement Status

My official title is: Executive Director of My Life's Journey.

Favorite Memory From BYU

The instructors, the educational program, the married dorm friends, and the overall beauty of the campus and people I was involved with.

Franklin Dale Roe

BSW, 1970

Tucson, Arizona

Director Of His Own Life

Alex Johnson

MSW 2015

Orem, Utah

ScenicView Academy

Our third son just turned 1 and we love raising our three boys.

Recent Activities

I am working as a consultant with ScenicView Academy, helping with program development as well as doing some therapy. I work full time at ScenicView.



During my time at BYU I took a break to serve a mission in Bolivia. Everyone in that country thought it so honorable that I would major in Social Work. I got married a week after graduating from BYU. I am now on my second marriage and we have 8 children between us and soon to be 8 grandchildren. I serve as Relief Society President in my ward.

Recent Activities

After 20 yrs. of state employment I came to BYU as an Honor Code counselor (four years ago).

Favorite Memory From BYU

I LOVED the devotionals then and I love them still. I attend in person every week and encourage every student I work with to do the same.

Mayla Walker Slack

BSW 1983

South Jordan, Utah

Honor Code Counselor

I don't think I fully appreciated the blessings of BYU while I was a student. I longed to be back at Rick's college (then only a two year school) or at BYU-Hawaii, which I attended for a semester. Now that I am employed here however, I recognize the true blessings and opportunities every student has for unique growth and education in this most unusual environment. It should be cherished.



Zachary Duvall

MSW 2013

Millcreek, Utah

LDS Family Services

Doing well :)

Recent Activities

I am a NOJOS (Network on Juveniles Offending Sexually) board member and an American Red Cross volunteer

Favorite Memory From BYU

The fun I had with classmates

We have five sons and one daughter, and 17 grand children. All have positive family lives.

I have used my social work training in my family, work, church callings, and in my volunteering.

Retirement status

I am retired. We have enjoyed going on missions to Adam-ondi-Ahman and Nauvoo, and spending time with our grand kids.

Favorite Memory From BYU

Meeting a young returned missionary who soon became my husband.

I received some of my best religious training from professors in my social work classes.



Kathleen Olson Black

BSW 1971

White Salmon, Washington

Archaeologist

My beautiful blended family now includes 33 of us. We do most of our large family gatherings during the warm months of the year where we can gather in and around the house. We play on the swingset and enjoy outdoor eating.

I am Co-Owner, Program Director and Therapist at The Green House Center for Growth and Learning. I am also Field Instructor for interns from BYU.

Recent Activities

I am Relief Society President in Sunset Heights 2nd Ward. I have been involved for many years with the Utah Play Therapy Association and served as President of that Board for 2 years. I am currently taking a leave from the UAPT Board to attend to my calling at church.

Favorite Memory From BYU

My favorite memories at BYU are about the friendships and connections I made while there. I still get together regularly with some and communicate with many from my cohort. I am grateful for my instructors and for the environment provided that supported my learning while in the MSW program.



Collette Dawson-Loveless

MSW 2009

Orem, Utah

The Green House Center

My wife, Lora (class of '72), and I are empty nesters. We have four married children, 15 grand children, 2 great-grandchildren and we had a foster Indian child for six years from Zuni, New Mexico.

Retirement Status

Retired. Worked as food broker and part-time city councilman for 24 years.

I served on the crime and public safety policy committee and the community development policy committee for the National League of Cities and on the board of Utah League of Cities and Towns.

Recent Activities

We travel. We serve as coordinators in the Draper Temple Baptistry and recently were called to serve a full time mission in the Salt Lake City South Mission. I serve on the Sandy City Transportation, Parks and Trails Committees, the Community Action Team and the Community Coordinators and the Honorary Colonels of the Sandy Police Department.

Favorite Memory From BYU

Singing in the ward choir and dating the choir director, who I persuaded to marry me. I loved everything about BYU; the education, the devotionals, the religion classes, the ski classes, the sports (go Cougars) and touring to Europe with the A Cappella Choir in 1968 and winning the International Choir Competition in Wales.

I will always bleed Cougar blue.



John Winder

BSW 1968

Sandy, Utah

Retired

I have Four children ages 13 to 3 and have been married 17 years :)

Recent Activities

I am a family school counselor and on a local school board. I work at two rural schools and an outreach high school for troubled teens.

I am also involved with the Alberta College of Social Work and Canadian Association of Social Work.

Favorite Memory From BYU

The professors and gospel learning. I miss the BSW program.



Marc Gilchrist
MSW 2009
Okotoks, Alberta. Canada
Family School Counsellor



Lisa Peters
BSW 1993
Austin, Minnesota
Austin High School

I have 5 children - 2 are at BYU and 1 is at BYU Idaho. I have 2 at home still.

Recent Activities

I am a teacher at Austin High School. I teach special education. I went back to school to get my teaching license and then my masters in education.

Favorite Memory From BYU

Loved the weather and climbing the Y. I lived at DT and we went back to take photos the year before they tore them down. Loved DT and my roommate.



Julie Orme
BSW 2002, MSW 2004
College Park, Maryland
Howard University

I'm still searching for my other half, but remain quite busy being an auntie to 17 nieces and nephews and working with the young women in my ward. The rest of my family lives all over the globe and I definitely enjoy going to visit with them.

Recent Activities

I am a clinic director in an outpatient mental health clinic that primarily serves low income populations.

I am currently a Ph.D. Student at Howard University and hoping to graduate soon. I've been able to publish on the topics of mentoring, human trafficking, and sex trafficking in peer reviewed journals.

Favorite Memory From BYU

I was most inspired by my professors that shared their hearts in the classroom and taught the most by their examples.



Phoebe Kung
MSW 2016
Provo, Utah
Deseret Industries

I am a development counselor at Provo Development Counseling Services, where I interned as a student.

Favorite Memory from BYU

I love the whole environment at BYU and I loved school! Learning and doing assignment, meeting other students, going to activities, eating super cheap food, living a college life--that is one big memory I love.

Barry Glum

BSW 1983

Bismarck, North Dakota
Job Service North Dakota

I am married with two daughters, two grandsons and two granddaughters. We are members of the Bismarck 3rd Ward which was just created a week

ago. We both are temple workers at the Bismarck Temple. Currently I serve as an 11 year old Scout Leader and Cub Master, merit badge counselor and troop and pack committee chair member.

Retirement Status

I can retire in just over three years but may work longer if necessary.

Recent Activities

I am employed by Job Service North Dakota providing assistance to those needing employment, training or skill development.

I have had employment as a mental health counselor-3 years, child protection worker-13 years and in a group home assisting handicapped adults with their needs-one year.

Favorite Memory From BYU

Working at the MTC Cafeteria on Christmas and getting to attend the meeting that President Kimball had with the missionaries where he extended his greetings to everyone.

**Linda Rasmussen
(Formerly Folkner)**

MSW 2002

Alaska
Private Practice

We continue to live in Alaska where I have my own private practice and also work for the state of Alaska. My youngest child is 12 years old and all of my older children are all adults.

I am a stay home mother of 9 children. I love to learn and I attend various religious and institute classes. A son just returned from a mission to

Rachel Crandall

BSW 1994 MSW 1999

Alpine, Utah
Stay-At-Home Mom

Boston Ma, (my hometown) and a daughter is at Snow College and 2 sons are at UVU. My children are amazing.

This is a great time to be alive as we prepare for the second coming of our Lord, Savior and King Jesus Christ.

Recent activities

Stay-at-home mom, student of the gospel, temple volunteer, I love emergency preparedness.

I serve, help and teach others when I can.

Favorite Memory From BYU

There were amazing classes and professors.



Julie Lutz Potter

MSW 2013

Kansas City, Missouri
Adoption Services

Married to my husband, Andrew Potter. He's finishing his last year of Law School at UMKC. We have 1 daughter, Sofie. She's 3 years old.

Recent Activities

Started a practice providing services to adoptive families (www.kcadoptiveservices.com)

Still working as a Medical SW at a hospital in town.

Favorite Memory From BYU

Repelling with Dr. Limb

Nancy C. Despain

BSW 1995

Payson, Utah
Social Work Supervisor

I have 8 grandchildren: 2 who live 45 minutes from my

home, 2 who live 300 miles away from me and 4 who live 2,000 miles from me. My 5th child died of cancer April 5, 2017.

Recent Activities

I supervise bachelor level social workers in a community mental health center. Being an active LDS member is a challenge.

Favorite Memory From BYU

Hearing the bells play as I walk across campus.



Larry E. Heaton
BSW 1975
Orangeville, Utah
Retired

My wife and I are empty nesters since all five of our children are married with families of their own.

Retirement Status

Retired, with one little job driving cancer patients to Provo for radiation treatments.

Recent Activities

Working on our little cabin in southern Utah, woodworking, travel and grand-kids

Favorite Memory From BYU

Taking my wife to the BYU football game on my motorcycle.

We continue to reside in the Pacific Northwest, married to my best friend with two beautiful children (a boy and a girl) and one lil babe on the way!



Recent Activities

I currently work at Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital as a social worker in our outpatient clinics. I am able to assist with crisis

Jennifer D (Johnson) Adkins
MSW 2008
Hood River, Oregon
Hospital Social Worker

triage, case management, acute therapeutic interventions, program development, and staff supervision.

Favorite Memory From BYU

I loved the fall crisp air, bbq's together as a cohort, study sessions (despite the stress), and the dinner prior to graduation. All amazingly awesome times!!!

I recently leveled up in my single adulting when I moved into my own apartment.

I am a shadow at Anasazi Foundation. That is their sneaky code word for family therapist.

Recent Activities

I work. A lot.



Favorite Memory From BYU

The ridiculous presentation my group did for Dr. Cox's HBSE class, complete with colored wigs.

I am grateful for the internship experiences I received through this MSW program. I reflect fondly on my experience at BYU.

Bethany Anderson
MSW 2012
Mesa, Arizona
Anasazi Foundation

I have two step-sons (19) and (16). We also added a new addition! We had a baby girl in April 2017.

Recent Activities

After I came back from maternity leave, I have been working part-time (10 hours per week) at a private non-profit in Jackson, WY. It's an outpatient substance abuse treatment for men and women. I just transitioned out of 4 years as an Active Duty Army social worker in December 2016.

Allison Walsh-Day
BSW 2001 MSW 2005
Star Valley, Wyoming
Substance Abuse



Julianne Law

MSW 1990

Rhosgafan, North Wales

Bangor University

Dr. Law has been lecturing at Bangor University for the past 12 years. She teaches undergraduate classes in Sociology and Medical Sociology, and is a personal tutor and a dissertation tutor to over 50 students. In 2017 she received a Fellowship in the Higher Education Academy, acknowledging her many years of teaching and expertise in higher education.

Favorite Memory From BYU

The vivid colors of the trees in the canyons in September and October, and the beautiful mountains covered in snow in the winter.

Our five children are out of the home now with our youngest living in Jacksonville while she attends the University of Florida Pharmacy program. We enjoy spending time with our three grandchildren.



Bruce Davis

BSW 1981

Gainesville, Florida

VA Medical Center

Recent Activities

I am currently the Visual Impairment Services Team Coordinator at the VA Medical Center. I coordinate services for 450 legally blind veterans in north central Florida.

Favorite Memory From BYU

Football games with friends.

Kelsey Johnson Haymond

MSW 2015

Orem, Utah

CHATS Counseling

I got married since graduating, so my party of 1 has now become a party of 2! Go cougars!!!

Recent Activities

I work at CHATS counseling office in American Fork. It is a private practice that treats primarily children and adolescents.

I am a lone social worker in an office full of psychologists. Gotta represent!

Retirement Status

That's a long way off....

Favorite Memory From BYU

Oh man there are so many! I enjoyed learning, doing our internships, and graduating.

I am living in Columbia, MO. My husband finishing up his PhD, and we are expecting our second child at the beginning of 2018.

Recent Activities

I work at a private practice owned by a psychologist. I do a lot of trauma work. I work in the evenings with my own clients and then do non-profit work in the community and schools doing trauma informed intervention with teachers and parents of children who have experienced significant trauma.

Favorite Memory From BYU

Going to the Twilight Zone to get creamery chocolate milk and asiago bagel with cream cheese between our classes in the dungeon of the JSFB with all my friends. There are too many favorite memories and too many favorite people!



Heather Ransom

MSW 2014

Columbia, Missouri

Private Practice

Twenty years after graduating from the Y, my daughter Angela is attending my alma mater. She is studying Business Management.

Recent Activities

I am a Children's Social Worker III for LA County Department of Children and Family Services. I hit my 15th year with the Department in July.

Favorite Memory From BYU

There are so, so many. I loved going salsa dancing at a local club that has since vanished. My religion classes were especially memorable and profound.

Ricardo Merchan

BSW 1997
Burbank, California
DCFS

Jen Higham Stewart

BSW 1996
Stafford, Virginia
Family Care Programs

My husband and I have three children. Our oldest is married and lives with her husband in Denver. They are both graduates from BYU-I with degrees in Exercise Science. Our second child recently started his freshman year at Utah State, majoring in Computer Science. Our youngest is a senior in high school, planning to attend college in the fall.

Recent Activities

I am the Deputy Branch Head for Family Care Programs at Headquarters Marine Corps in Quantico, VA. The HQMC Family Care Branch provides dedicated programs and services to care for, inform, and empower Marines and their family members.

I am currently looking for work as a medical social worker (because I really don't want to commute to San Francisco General Hospital anymore) after spending a year at home after Natalie was born last September. Jacob is working at a biotech startup, Synthego, as a software engineer.



Kerianna Creedon

MSW 2014
Redwood City, California
Medical Social Work

Favorite Memory From BYU

I remember dividing a bag of M&Ms into their color groups and comparing the ratios of colors. I can't really remember what the point was, but it was the beginning of a great friendship with Tess Collett.



John Platts

BSW 1992
Rancho Cucamonga, California
LDS Family Services

I got married while at BYU to another BSW in 1990. We moved to CA and had 2 daughters. I got divorced in 1997 and remarried in 1998, we had a daughter and a son. Daughter 1 graduated from BYU, and daughter 2 is a senior at UVU. My son is a senior in high school and daughter 3 is in 6th grade.

I got an MA in Rehabilitation Counseling in 2011 from Cal State L.A.

Recent Activities

Rehab Counselor for CA Dept. of Rehabilitation. Helping individuals w/ disabilities prepare for and secure employment.

Favorite Memory From BYU

Being in the marching band.



I have been married since 1983. I have a stepson, a stepdaughter, and one son. I have 9 grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Recent Activities

Pro-Tem Member of Utah State Board of Pardons since March 2014. Retired from Board after 12+ years. Retired from Utah Department of Corrections after 23 years of employment.

Jennifer Kearns Bartell

BSW 1973

South Jordan, Utah

Retired

In addition, I've amused myself with part time work at a golf course cafe. We travel, camp, enjoy activities with grandkids, and are off and on with the gym.

Favorite Memory From BYU

I just enjoyed campus life, sitting in student center and enjoying all the sports activities.

I have three grown, married children and five grandchildren. A son in grad school out of state, a daughter teaching special education in Salt Lake City and a daughter who is a stay at home mom to her 6 year old and twin 3 year-olds. I am a widow.

Recent Activities

I am currently working in adoption. Three other social workers and myself started an LLC, Utah Adoption Specialists. We provide adoption home studies, post placement reports and adoption caseworker services to adoptive couples. Our group also provides birth parent services to the families who choose an adoption plan for their baby.

I had the opportunity to participate in CLASP my senior year. That was long time ago!

Favorite Memory From BYU

Koleen Braddy Popin

BSW 1979

Orem, Utah

Adoption

I continue to love and am loyal to BYU. I am glad I live nearby and have reason now and again to visit campus.

I am married and have a 3 year old. I got an MSW in 2003 from University of Maryland, Baltimore.

Recent Activities

I am an interpreter for the deaf and work full time in an inpatient psychiatric facility.

Catherine Harrison

BSW 1999

Maryland

Deaf Interpretation

I have 6 kids and 22 grandkids. I got my MSW in 1981 from the U of U.

Recent Activities

I am the executive director for a residential treatment center for adolescent girls and a multifaceted mental health agency. I do advocacy, counseling, etc.

Favorite Memory From BYU

Being able to discuss gospel principles openly.

Charles Rich

BSW 1979

Rancho Cucamonga, California

Residential Treatment Center

We now have 8 children (7 biological and one adopted). I was just awarded a "Woman of Distinction Award" for the work I am doing to help alleviate the global childcare crisis with our technology, Momni.com. Photos and more details here: <http://momni.com/2017/09/03/momni-founder-receives-women-of-distinction-award/>



Karmel Larson

BSW 2000

Orem, Utah

Momni.com

Recent Activities

I am the Founder / CEO of a local tech startup, Momni.com, that works with mothers globally to provide a solution to the global childcare crisis.

My wife (BYU Alumni Student--Nancy Lance) passed away in September 2016. I am currently retired from work and involved in a number of church-related activities.

The crazier colleges are becoming, I realize more and more how valuable BYU is as a stabilizing force for all. It has become an oasis in the desert of education.

Recent Activities

I have been teaching the education segment for the new self-reliance initiative being offered by the Church.

I have been involved with family history, photography, family and grandkids. Since my wife's passing, I have made two humanitarian trips to the Dominican Republic.

Retirement Status

Retired and loving it.

Favorite Memory From BYU

My roommate gave me a Catholic University of America tee shirt. I loved wearing it to class because I got great attention from students and the professors thinking I might be one to refer to the missionaries.



Michael Pitcher

BSW 1975

Idaho Falls, Idaho

Retired



Aimee (Pelletier) Robertson

BSW 1999

St. Louis, Missouri

Missouri First Steps

We have six kids. The oldest is a senior this year and our youngest just entered Kindergarten. So many new adjustments! Two are deaf and on the autism spectrum, and we are so proud of the examples they are of what they CAN do rather than perpetuating the stigma of what children like them can't do.

Recent Activities

I am currently working as a BCaBA working specifically with children in the Missouri First Steps program who have autism or other developmental delays. I specialize in problem behaviors, feeding issues, and hearing loss with other developmental delays. I also work with families as a parent advocate teaching parents how to advocate for their children in IEP and IFSP team meetings.

Favorite Memory From BYU

My first kiss with my now husband at the bottom of the steps outside my apartment at Moon Apartments.

I have 4 adult kids, 7 grandkids, and 1 great grandchild. No one is in jail. All live in the Western USA.

Recent Activities

I frequently attend my grandkids' games.

Favorite Memory From BYU

I appreciated the classes taught by Philip R Kunz. I also enjoyed flying giant paper airplanes out of window at Desert Towers.

Garth Andrus

BSW 1976 MSW 1983

St. George, Utah

Retired

Teresa and I have four children. We have three boys: Addison Thor (5-years-old), Banner Zakrey (4-years-old), Cage Stark (3-years-old) and one girl: Taylee Quill (2-years-old). They are all named after superheroes.

I am an Assistant Professor at Salt Lake Community College, and a Therapist at Alpha Counseling and Treatment. I plan on beginning my Ph.D. at the University of Utah in Social Work next Fall.

Recent Activities

I serve on the President's Committee on Inclusivity and Equity at Salt Lake Community College. We assist in meeting the needs of students with diverse backgrounds, who feel oppressed and/or disenfranchised.

Retirement Status

I'm not retired.

Favorite Memory From BYU

Taking Statistics from Dr. Shafer, Advanced Clinical Work from Dr. Marett and Dr. Matheson, Leadership from Dr. Limb, Group Work from Dr. Cox, Community Organization from Dr. Seipel and Field Work from Wendy.



Zach Bullock

MSW 2014

Lehi, Utah

Alpha Counseling

Samantha just started teaching 7th grade English this year and is loving teaching! Aaron is 3 and Felicity is 2. We constantly get asked if they are twins. We just bought our first house in August.

Recent Activities

I am working as an outpatient therapist at First Step House which is a SUD treatment agency in South Salt Lake.

Favorite Memory From BYU

Eli Menet.



Haydn Jessup

MSW 2017

Tooele, Utah

First Step House

Eli Menet

MSW 2017

Cedar City, Utah
Medical Social Work

I am a social worker at Garfield Memorial Hospital.

I do case management, crisis intervention, and grief counseling.

I have been married 32 years and have 3 sons, a great daughter-in-law, and two grandsons. All are well and happy.

Recent Activities

I provide clinical & administrative training, outreach, cultural assessment of teams, and family, individual, & group therapy.

Favorite Memory From BYU

Having Judy Norman, Social Work professor, take the time to invest in me and my future.

John Stewart

MSW 1992

Spanish Fork, Utah
Legacy Director

My husband and I are enjoying life in Florida. We both love the palm trees and the beautiful turquoise ocean waters. Although our children are grown and out of the home, we are not quite empty nesters. We are parents to 3 miniature goats, 4 chickens, and two cats. I received my MSW in 1993 from Walla Walla University.



Recent Activities

I am a mental health therapist at the West Palm Beach VA Medical Center. I serve veterans seeking mental health treatment. I have been trained in a variety of therapy techniques. During my off-duty time, I frequently provide Accelerated Resolution Therapy at veterans' retreats.

Favorite Memory From BYU

I loved all of the fun activities at BYU...the dances, concerts, Saturday ski trips, etc., etc.

Lori (Soderberg) Williams

BSW 19787
Jupiter, Florida
VA Medical Center

I am practicing family medicine in Colebrook, NH, Conway, NH, and Newport, VT. We are 8 miles from the Canadian border. I am also the town Emergency Manager, and work closely with the region's Drug Task Force.

Recent Activities

I am a Narcotic Dependency Medical Review Officer and a U.S. Department of Transportation Certified Medical Examiner.

I am available to consult in areas of Addiction, and Emergency Management. I was formerly a Regional Coordinator for the Virginia Department of Emergency Management. I also have a license for Suboxone and would love to be part of a team treating addiction at BYU.

Favorite Memory from BYU

I remember the wards and branches, the peacefulness and beauty of the campus, and being able to see the Provo Temple.

Bruce D. Latham

EMPA 1984 DO 1991
Colebrook, NH
Regional Drug Task Force

My husband and I are currently raising our four beautiful children.



Recent Activities

I am a counselor at LDS Family Services. I work with a variety of clients including survivors of abuse and trauma, couples and families, single expectant parents, those struggling with depression or anxiety, and those recovering from PTSD and betrayal trauma.

Favorite Memory From BYU

I loved making new friends in my program and really enjoyed our lunch visits with one another.

Tracy L. Burnham

MSW 2000
Centerville, Utah
LDS Family Services

Gina Hales

MSW 1999
Provo, Utah
WhyTry

I live in Provo. I just finished a PhD in Educational Leadership.

Recent Activities

I contract with WhyTry to train professionals on how to use a specific program to help students, typically troubled students. But I also do corrections trainings for adults.

Favorite Memory From BYU

Hanging out with my MSW pals.

My husband and I live in Boise, Idaho. I retired a just a couple of years ago as a school counselor. It was a very rewarding job

Kathy (Fife) Thomas

MSW 1972

Boise, Idaho

Retired

because I had a positive impact on the lives of the children. Our daughter Megan was born in SLC, Utah in 1979 and our son, Nathan, was born in Wenatchee, Washington in 1985. Our son lives nearby and we love spending time with him.

My husband and I have many great times and experiences and, like most everyone else, we had some speedbumps in our journey through life so far. We lost our 26 year old daughter about 12 years ago to pancreatic cancer just after she earned a double masters degree. She was a pip and we still miss her but we are grateful for the perspective that the gospel brings to our lives.

Recent Activities

My time is spent in 4 main areas of interest. I love taking classes on a variety of topics sponsored by the Osher Institute at Boise State University. I am also learning to love an exercise regimen including daily walking and solving world problems with a girl friend, biking with my husband and friends whenever weather permits, and Zumba classes at my local gym. I also serve in the church and travel with my husband to keep him out of trouble. Our latest trip was a 3 country trip to London, Berlin and Copenhagen.

Favorite Memory From BYU

I appreciate and value my education and the life-long friendships that I made while attending BYU.

ward to tenure and promotion next year.

Dr. Broce is an LCSW and practices part time in the local hospital system as a Behavioral Health Crisis Clinician. He regularly attends and presents at meetings of the Council on Social Work Education and the Society for Social Work and Research.

Favorite Memory From BYU

I loved the camaraderie of the cohort, sitting and sometimes snoozing in the armchair at the back of the old classroom, and the inspiring and engaging classroom activities.

Susie Seggar

MSW 1985

Salt Lake City, Utah

Retired

Recent Activities

I have volunteered with refugee families and served service missions with LDS Church.

Retirement Status

Retired

Dr. Broce lives with his wife and 6 children in the mountains of North Carolina where they enjoy the serenity of mountain living, the temperate climate, and outdoor activities. Their oldest son is a senior in high school and their youngest begins kindergarten next year. They spent the past summer as cast members and missionaries in the Hill Cumorah Pageant in Palmyra, NY.



Robert Broce

MSW 2002

Boone, North Carolina

Appalachian State

Recent Activities

Dr. Broce is an Assistant Professor of Social Work at Appalachian State University. He teaches direct practice courses with a specialty in children and adolescents and focuses his research on preventing youth violence. He is currently piloting a dating violence prevention program with undergraduate college students and with 8th grade public school students. He is actively involved in several positive youth development programs, and in church service. He looks for-



Mike Guymon
 MSW 1999
 Sugar City, Idaho
 Children's Mental Health

My wife and I live in Sugar City, ID with 3 of our 5 children. Our twins are married and live in Rexburg and Idaho Falls. Life is busy with sports, church callings, work, pizza movie nights, and having fun. Hope everyone is doing well...would love to get a hold of CeeCee Weight if anyone can

help me with that. She graduated with me.

Recent Activities

I am a clinical supervisor for Children's Mental Health (Department of Health and Welfare) and the team lead for our first episode of psychosis program.

Favorite Memory From BYU

Favorite memories include study groups, basketball, eating lunch together, Dr. Pettis, Dr. Matheson...real great experiences.

My husband and I were blessed with the birth of our son, Parker, last November. He keeps us busy and reminds us of the joys in life!

There is not a day that goes by that I don't use the skills and knowledge I gained from being in this program. I am very appreciative of my education and the influence it has on my role as a mother.

Recent Activities

I currently work part-time for a private practice in Spanish Fork. I mainly see women and work with trauma, depression, and postpartum depression. I swore I would never be in private practice, but I love it!

Favorite Memory Form BYU

The second year of my program was the best! I felt we really solidified our bond as a cohort and supported each other through the emotional rollercoaster of internships, coursework, the licensure exam, and job hunting. A major highlight was the end of year banquet when we convinced Dr. Marett to take a selfie with us using his uniquely-cased phone.

I married my husband, Andy Taggart, in April of this year. He is finishing up his Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering at BYU. We have been busy this year with work, school, and enjoying time biking, painting, and cooking together.



Brittany Feuz Taggart
 MSW 2016
 Provo, Utah
 Provo Canyon School

Recent Activities

I have been working as a therapist at Provo Canyon School in Springville, Utah since graduation. I have been here about a year and a half and am looking forward to becoming an LCSW in May of 2018. I currently work for the high school girls' program at Provo Canyon running groups and doing individual and family therapy with the students on my caseload. One of the best parts about my job is working with several other BYU MSW alumni!

Favorite Memory From BYU

My favorite memory from grad school was the special relationships I developed with members of my cohort who have become lifelong friends. I have also cherished the relationships that were built with professors who mentored me and influenced me in many ways in my life.

Chanel Nagaishi
 MSW 2015
 Orem, Utah
 Private Practice



After working at Deseret Industries for almost five years, I started this semester as the Manager of Counseling at LDS Business College.



Colette Dalton

MSW 2012

Salt Lake City, Utah

LDS Business College

I live with my husband David Patten and 4 children.

Recent Activities

I am a school social worker/guidance counselor. I participate in the NASW LA chapter.

Favorite Memory From BYU

Great professors!

Masami Patten

MSW 2001

Louisiana

School Social Work

Holly (Grow) Waite

BSW 1990 MSW 1998

Nampa, Idaho

Stay-At-Home-Mom

I have a loving husband and three children (two boys and a girl). I do not have a photo at this time, but if you want to communicate or catch

up, please find and friend me on Facebook: Holly Waite. I look forward to hearing from you.

Recent Activities

Currently my oldest son is a high school online student at home. I stay with him to support his success full-time. I volunteer in local charitable organizations such as the Salvation Army, Project Ruth, and our church community.

Favorite Memory From BYU

My favorite memories are class time with Brother Gibbons and Sister Walton, fun and work time with Brother Pehrson, and other professors such as Shirley Cox and the Korean professor and the Statistics professor. Gini Roby visited us and was hired the year I graduated. You each made the program what it is and it changed my life. Thank you forever!

I was married in the summer between the graduate school academic years. We have 3 children.

Recent Activities

I currently work as a medical social worker at Primary Children's Hospital in the Newborn Intensive Care Unit.

I am affiliated with The National Association of Perinatal Social Workers and The National Society of Social Worker Leaders in Health Care.

Favorite Memory From BYU

Our graduate class was very tight and small in number (22 I think). We would study in a large group often. I really enjoyed this closeness and our two years together.

Tight knit group of MSW students and the relationships with our professors. Watching BYU football in their glory days.



Annette Anderson Proctor

MSW 1993

Sandy, Utah

Primary Children's Hospital

My 10 year wedding anniversary is at the end of the academic year. My son is turning 5 soon. My daughter is 2.

Recent Activities

I am a PhD Student at the University of Michigan and I do social work research.



Garrett Pace

MSW 2013

Ann Arbor, Michigan

PhD Student

I have three children, ages 7, 4, and 1. They are very fun and we are very busy. My husband is a senior project manager for a construction company called Schuchart.



Recent Activities

I am a part time lecturer at the University of Washington's School of Social Work in their graduate program. I also have as a private psychotherapy practice in Seattle. I am involved with the NASW and the Relief Society.

Lisa Tamaki Reinbold
BSW 2004
Seattle, Washington
University of Washington

Favorite Memory From BYU

I have so many! I loved the Feagin book for my Race and Ethnic Relations class, Dr. Seipel's inspiring lectures, and the focus on clinical work in the undergraduate program. I felt well prepared for graduate school and for my career.

I am married to my wife Amy. We have 3 kids: Madi-lyn 14, Kenny 10, and Tye 7.



Recent Activities

I am a full-time employee at LDS Family Services, Specialized Services and part-time at Millcreek Counseling.

Kyle Oswald
MSW 2000
Salt Lake City, Utah
LDS Family Services

Favorite Memory From BYU

Taking the sex therapy class from Kevin Marett and failing the "lab". Going off campus for caffeine. Listening to Dr. Seipel talk about anything.



Annie Ditto
MSW 2004
Spokane, Washington
LDS Family Services

I am happily married to Kelly, with 5 kids ages 14 to 3!

Recent Activities

I work at LDSFS one night a week. I also provide volunteer counseling at a local homeless shelter.

Favorite Memory From BYU

Shenanigans with Amberli McCoy and dating Kelly of course!

Son, John, is 36, single and lives in Texas. Daughter, Traci, is 46 and lives in Richmond, Virginia. She has three sons: Triston 22, Trent 13, and Jaxon 7. My sweetheart, Barbara and I are still nourishing our temple marriage.

I consider the time I spent at the Y as one of the greatest blessings of my life. For a simple old country boy from the piney woods of north Louisiana who had always been in a small minority when it came to being LDS, being around so many LDS members was a treasured experience.

Johnny Cobert
BSW 1976
Texas
Retired

Recent Activities

I have done a lot of church work. I also spend time with my grandchildren when it is possible. They live far away in Virginia. I also volunteer at a local Christian center that gives out food and clothing to needy families and individuals, similar to a Bishop's storehouse.

Retirement Status

I am retired. I was a probation officer in Texas for 25 years.

Favorite Memory From BYU

The Tuesday devotionals.

My family is still in Colorado. I still work for LDS Family Services. My oldest daughter who was 2 when I started the MSW program, just returned from a mission. My son who was born at the beginning of the program is now 19 and preparing to go serve! My next three daughters are wonderful (ages 17, 15, 13). We are happy and well.



Jim R. Jacobs
MSW 2000
Colorado
LDS Family Services

Recent Activities

I am counselor with LDS Family Services. I also operate my own business providing counseling, coaching, and marriage education. I am a columnist for Women's Voices Magazine and I am a Featured Contributor for Biz Catalyst 360.

Favorite Memory From BYU

BYU was the second best two years for my life! I remember feeling loved by my professors, being challenged to be and do my best, and having great opportunities to do the work! Thank you! I am so happy I had the privilege of being a student in the MSW program at BYU! Thank you for forever blessing my life!!

April Crandall
BSW 1993
Idaho Falls, Idaho
Agency Administration

I am married with 4 girls, 1 married daughter, and one granddaughter on the way.

Recent Activities

I am a part-time in RHS -Community Mental Health Agency Administration Policy/ Procedure/ Program Development.

My husband and I welcomed our miracle baby girl, Vivian, in May 2017. We recently purchased a home and are currently settling down in Idaho Falls, ID.



Recent Activities

I'm working part time as a therapist at Tueller Counseling. I work with a variety of clientele including children, adolescents, and adults with various mental health diagnoses, substance use disorders, trauma, and those on probation/parole. I also run a trauma group for female adolescents, which is the most rewarding part of my week. I'm a little over halfway done with getting my LCSW hours.

Megan Urick
MSW 2016
Idaho Falls, Idaho
Tueller Counseling

Favorite Memory From BYU

One of my favorite memories was convincing Dr. Marett to let us watch the entire movie "What About Bob?" in class.

My crazy gang of Smiths has grown from a family of 3 to a family of 6! My husband and I have three boys and a girl. Our daughter Maya was born with Trisomy 18 and passed away this past December. It has been a refining, humbling and growth filled couple years for us.

Recent Activities

I am currently raising my wild lot of children but planning to re-enter the field of social work awesomeness within this next year.



I have been asked to speak at a perinatal conference in October in the general session about the life of our daughter Maya and our experience with Trisomy 18 and grief.

Favorite Memory From BYU

I really enjoyed the leadership class as well as praying to start class and hearing the national anthem playing in the morning on campus and watching everyone become still.

Gillian Smith
MSW 2011
Mountain Top, Pennsylvania
Stay-At-Home Mom

Heather Christie

MSW 2015

St. George, Utah

Residential Treatment



I recently obtained my LCSW and am working with adolescent girls in a residential treatment center.

We welcomed our little boy Darren Jude Lamoreaux in July.

Recent Activities

I am currently working as the clinical director of Steps Recovery Day Treatment program in Draper, Utah. (Substance abuse)



Favorite Memory From BYU

I value the friendships and relationships gained!

Alex Lamoreaux

MSW 2017

Herriman, Utah

Substance Abuse

I have been with LDS Family Services for 19 years and am serving as a bishop. My wife teaches piano lessons and teaches Gospel Doctrine. My daughter is 18 and is working full-time at a law office. She is also doing Pathways through BYU Idaho and is in the R.S. Presidency of her single's ward. My son is Junior in high school.

Recent Activities

I am the counseling manager of the CA Fresno office of LDS Family Services. I provide consultation to priesthood/auxiliary leaders regarding mental health concerns, provide therapy, and supervise the Addiction Recovery Program. I have been doing so since September of 1998 after earning a Master's Degree in Social Work.

Favorite Memory From BYU

BYU Devotionals.



I have been married 42 years and have two sons.

Recent Activities

I volunteer for a hospice agency and do some travelling.

Retirement Status

Retired

Dennis Hayes

BSW 1974

Allen Park, Michigan

Retired

Favorite Memory From BYU

I remember the beauty of the campus and the area.

I am currently working as a therapist in both inpatient and outpatient settings at Oxbow Academy and Redwood Family Therapy. I specialize in working with teens and adults with pornography and sex addiction, as well as those with compulsive sexual behavioral problems.

Recent Activities

I am currently affiliated with the International Institute for Trauma and Addiction Professionals (IITAP), NASW, and the Utah Network on Juveniles Offending Sexually (NOJOS).



Favorite Memory From BYU

I loved spending time with my MSW cohort, including study sessions, parties, lunches, etc. We had so much fun together!

Rachelle Hamill

MSW 2010

Eagle Mountain, Utah

Oxbow Academy

Brian Anderson

BSW 1991

Clovis, California

LDS Family Services

Anzana (29) has been married 9 years. She has one adorable daughter (our only grandchild). Maegan (21) returned home from her mission to Taiwan in May 2017. She is attending BYU and works at the MTC. Annelise (17) is a junior at Maeser Prep Academy. John (15) is a Sophomore at Maeser Prep Academy. He plays varsity soccer at the school as a goal keeper. He is excited to have his learner's permit.



Greg Hendrix
BS 1990 MSW 1997
Lindon, Utah
LDS Family Services

Recent Activities

I work part-time at LDS Family Services in the American Fork office. I work full time at the Utah State Prison. I have been employed there for over 16 years. I am currently a Deputy Warden in the Programming Division. I supervise our substance abuse and sex offender programs for both Gunnison and Draper sites.

I finally self published a book. It is called I love me...I love me not. It is focused on how we can come to accept and love ourselves unconditionally. There is a model that makes it easy to understand. I enjoy presenting on the book and the concepts of self worth.

Favorite Memory From BYU

I remember hanging out with my cohort, playing basketball on Thursdays for 5 straight hours, the BYU creamery, and football games. I really enjoyed watching women's and men's soccer on South Field. Rugby was also very entertaining to watch.



Lynne Andrus Wright
BSW 1989
Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania
Shippensburg University

I graduated with my MSW from Shippensburg University in May of 2017. My oldest son is in his first year of medical school at the Commonwealth Medical College. My youngest two sons are in Provo attending BYU. My husband is a radiologist. This picture is of me at my son's white coat ceremony with his wife and my husband.

Recent Activities

I am looking for a job in the Harrisburg, PA area and am affiliated with NASW-PA.

Favorite Memory From BYU

Someone at alliance house getting Carry On My Wayward Son lyrics published as his own poem in the newsletter.



Crystal McCown
BSW 2009
Jersey City, New Jersey
LCSW

I just spend my time chasing around our adorable 1.5 year old Marielle.

Recent activities

Recently earned my LCSW, we just moved so I'm pursuing different options once my licensure is available here.

Cyndy and I have been happily married for 46 years. We have five children and 20 grandchildren. My social work education has been a tremendous blessing in every aspect of my life. Thank you! I currently serve as Secretary to the Quorum of the Twelve.

Favorite Memory From BYU

Wonderful social work, history, and religion classes and singing in "Sounds of Freedom."



Don Staheli
MSW 1985
Bountiful, Utah
LDS Church



Sarah M. Higbee

MSW 2017

New Jersey

AIDS Resources

I am currently a Social Worker for the AIDS Resource Foundation for Children.

My husband is Poponatui Sitake. We have 5 children, 3 married and 2 not. We have 7 grandchildren with 3 on the way in December and January making 10!!! We recently moved from Mesa, AZ to Spanish Fork, UT and are starting a new job in October.

Recent Activities

I have been a group home parent for 11 years. I resigned and am seeking new employment.

Favorite Memory From BYU

Being involved with the Indian Education Program and all the wonderful instructors who were part of that specific program.



Donna Gill Sitake

BSW 1982

Spanish Fork, Utah

Job Hunting

I am married with four children - boy girl boy girl. The oldest is attending USU, the second is attending BYU as a student athlete. The other son, 15, is a sophomore in high school at Davis High in Kaysville, Utah. My youngest daughter, 11, is in sixth grade.

Richard S. Geisler

MSW 1999

Kaysville, Utah

Residential Treatment

Recent Activities

I own a residential treatment center that treats young men ages 14-18 in northern Utah. I have owned this business for 11 years. I am not involved in NASW or other social work activities outside of individual, group and family therapy.

Favorite Memory From BYU

I appreciated my clinical experience, practicum experiences, and the friends and colleagues I met.

Jana Roberts

BSW 2005

Las Vegas, Nevada

School Social Work

I have been married for 13 years and have 3 kids ages 7, 6, and 3. I am a social worker in schools under the SB515 grant.



Annette Peterson

MSW 1983

Arden Hills, Minnesota

United Health Group

I have been married for 26 years. Our son Alex graduated from high school this year. I have worked at Optum (UnitedHealth Group) for the past 25 years. I am currently a project manager on the Behavioral Health Specialty Networks team for the Central Region.

Recent Activities

I assist with the development of our various Medicaid networks (which consist of both outpatient and inpatient behavioral health providers) and specialty networks such as Telemental Health.

Favorite Memory From BYU

All the times I went across the street to the little take out place by the Marriage & Family Therapy building and played Pacman with fellow students while waiting for our meals.

I am married with three kids, ages 13-18. I am a Program Director at Paren Chile Development Center in Wahiawa for Early Intervention Services.

Favorite Memory From BYU

Wonderful classmates, friends, and excellent internships at Wasach Mental Health Center and LDS Social Services on Oahu. Practicing and performing for the Campus Luau, twice!



Linnie Tan
MSW 1998
Oahu, Hawaii
Paren Chile Development

We are a family of five! Noa turned 5 this year, Lei turned three, and Baby Vita just had his first birthday! My husband, Sione, is studying Engineering up at Weber State. We are loving our little growing family, and just put our roots down this year and bought a home near family. We are loving life!



Melissa Pomale
MSW 2014
Ogden, Utah
Medical Social Work

Recent Activities

I am an inpatient therapist at McKay Dee hospital's behavioral unit. I love it and have been there almost three years.



Richard Alboroto
MSW 2011
Honolulu, Hawaii
Program Evaluation

I am still living on my own. I have not found my eternal family yet. I just graduated with my Ph.D. degree in Social Welfare.

Recent Activities

I work for a nonprofit organization named Consuelo Foundation whose mission is to promote the well-being of at-risk children and families in the Philippines and Hawai'i and to prevent and treat their abuse, neglect, and exploitation. We do this through innovative and effective strategies and services that engage and empower individuals, families, and communities.

I have four children now. I love BYU MSW Program and I am always recommending the program to other people.

Recent Activities

I am a field instructor for UVU and the U of U. I am currently working as a School Social Worker for Provo City School District and as a Medical Social Worker for Intermountain Healthcare.

Favorite Memory From BYU

The day of graduation, when we were in line outside waiting.



Isabel Gomes
MSW 2014
Orem, Utah
Medical Social Work

Retirement Status

Not yet. I still have a long way to go.

Favorite Memory From BYU

I love the professors

Rae Lynn Weaver
BSW 1993
Orem, Utah
Homemaker