



The Social Buzz



School of Social Work

October 16- October 22, 2025

MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR

NMSU SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
Empowering Future Change-Makers

MAJOR FUNDING AVAILABLE NOW!

Exciting News! Over **\$440,000 in scholarships and stipends** are now available for NMSU Social Work students!

Scholarships **\$250,000**

- BSW Students:** 20 scholarships of \$5,000 each to help cover tuition and educational costs
- MSW Students:** 20 scholarships of \$7,500 each to support your graduate education

Paid Practicums **\$190,443**

- BSW Students:** 10 stipends of \$10,000 for students completing unpaid practicum placements
- MSW Students:** 9 stipends of \$10,000 for students completing unpaid practicum placements

Remember to apply for the School of Social Work scholarship. We have this great opportunity for you all!!

Mary Nienow

Dr. Mary Nienow,
Director

Eligibility Requirements

✓ New Mexico Resident

✓ GPA 3.0 or Higher

✓ Demonstrated Financial Need

DON'T MISS OUT!

Apply today through Scholar Dollar\$ to secure your funding

APPLY ON SCHOLAR DOLLAR\$ →





In This Issue



SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

<u>Spotlight</u>	3
<u>BSSWA Hygiene Drive</u>	4
<u>DSJ Column</u>	5-6
<u>CWSP Info Session</u>	7
<u>Lunch and Learn Speaker Series</u>	8
<u>Conlee's Fall Festival</u>	9
<u>GSSWA Student Survey</u>	10
<u>Child Welfare Angel Tree Project</u>	11

NMSU ANNOUNCEMENTS

<u>Outtober History Parade</u>	11
<u>Alma's Kitchen</u>	12
<u>Indigenous People Day</u>	13
<u>Mobile Museum Grand Opening</u>	14
<u>Graduate Research and Arts</u>	15

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

<u>Center For Excellence</u>	16
<u>AI Skills Roadtrip Opportunity</u>	17
<u>Continuing Education Credits Opportunity</u>	18
<u>Community Wellness Night</u>	19
<u>National Student Research</u>	20

SOCIAL WORK

<u>SW Faculty Recognition</u>	21
<u>SW Student Peer Support</u>	22
<u>Peer Support Office Hours</u>	23
<u>Careers And Opportunities</u>	24
<u>Connect With Us</u>	25





SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

SPOTLIGHT!!

Here are some highlights of "Conlee's 2nd Annual Fall Break Reading Camp". Some of our students were involved in making this possible and we would like thank them.

Jody Blackwood (BSW), Dominic Hein (MSW), Sara Hipps (MSW), and Megan McGuire (MSW) took the lead in all hands on activity stations. Megan helped close out the week with a special Lorax visit.

Megan, Sara, Dominic and Jody have been such great assets to our campus and students, and we are beyond thankful for their enthusiasm and support.





SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



HYGIENE DRIVE

ORGANIZED BY BSSWA AND 100% FAMILY CENTER AGENCY



Help Us Spread Health, Hope, and Dignity!

Good hygiene is vital not just for health, but for personal dignity and confidence.

Many in our community face daily challenges accessing basic hygiene essentials that many of us take for granted. You can help!

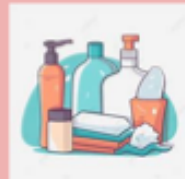
BSSWA and 100% Family Center agency will distribute all collected items to local families in need.



Items needed but not limited to:

Body wipes
Sunscreen
Feminine products

Bug repellent
Body wash
Chapstick



Collection Dates: 10/1-10/31

8 Locations:

O'Donell	Activity Center
HSS (2 nd Floor)	Branson Library
HSS (1 st Floor)	Science Hall
Zuhl Library	Writing Center



Any questions email Abby Gutierrez @gutiea21@nmsu.edu





THE DSJ COLUMN



October 2025

The DSJ Committee is looking for **YOUR** voice to enrich the Social Buzz! 🐝

Welcome to the new DSJ Committee column! This space is dedicated to amplifying *all* voices across our SSW community. Here you'll find reflections on practice, perspectives on social justice, creative pieces, and insights from the field. We're excited to share the diverse experiences and ideas that make our community vibrant. Check back regularly for new contributions and our monthly reading list!

Are you the creative type? 🖋️

We're inviting students, faculty, and staff to contribute to our column. **We're especially interested in amplifying student voices** - whether you want to share insights from your practicum, reflect on a challenging case, explore a social issue you're passionate about, or submit a creative piece that connects to your social work or lived experience, we want to hear from you. Faculty and staff are also welcome to contribute research insights, reflections on teaching and practice, or perspectives on social justice in our field and community.

Scan the QR code below to submit your piece and come back soon to experience the creative work of your peers!





CLICK HERE



Do you love to read?

Starting this month, the DSJ Committee will be sponsoring a reading list in our column! What do you read for fun? Need a break from textbooks and research articles? We want to hear about the books you love - the ones that shaped your practice, challenged your thinking, or offered new perspectives on social justice. Submit your favorite social work-related book.

Scan the QR code below to add to next month's list and come back the **first Wednesday of every month** to find your next read!



CLICK HERE





Child Welfare
Scholar
Program

Information Session

We are looking for people dedicated to
child welfare.

Join Us

**October
17th, 2025**

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM



HSS Research Suite 232

Zoom Meeting ID: 826 0395 4488



Scholar Benefits

- ✓ Specialized child welfare coursework
- ✓ Invaluable experience with foster & adoptive care
- ✓ Opportunity to network & collaborate w/community organizations
- ✓ Attend, participate, and present at national conferences

**For program
requirements or
more information:**

Click Here

+575 646 5711

Erica Tontodonati





Lunch & Learn

SPEAKER SERIES

A Day in the Life of a Child Welfare Worker

An in-depth look at the daily responsibilities, challenges, and rewards of a child welfare worker, from a practitioner's perspective. Through real-life scenarios and experiences, participants will gain an understanding of how child welfare professionals advocate for the safety and well-being of children and families. Tailored for all students considering a career in child welfare, this session highlights the essential skills, resilience, and compassion required to make a meaningful impact in this critical field.



MONDAY
27 OCTOBER 2025



12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

ZOOM
MEETING ID
822 9492 4008

Maurita Armijo, BSW

Metro Regional Coach
Workforce Development
Bureau Performance and
Accountability Division

Contact: Erica Tontodonati
ericat@nmsu.edu





SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

1701 Boston Dr, Las Cruces,

Volunteers Needed!



Scan QR code to
sign up!

Conlee's **FALL** festival

Food trucks!

Cotton Candy Sale!

Pumpkin
Decorating
Contest!

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2025

5:30-7:30PM

Wear your costumes and join us for some fun!
Math & ELA games, face painting, jumping balloon,
photo booth, fire truck, bookfair, hayrides and more!

NO MASKS OR WEAPON-LIKE PROPS
WILL BE ALLOWED
COSTUMES CAN NOT COVER FACES



The Social Buzz



socialwork.nmsu.edu 9





GSSWA

MSW Student Survey



>> SCAN OR TAP <<

PURPOSE: TO COLLECT AND GATHER DATA ON MSW STUDENT NEEDS AND IDENTIFY HOW STUDENTS WISH TO BE ENGAGED. THIS SURVEY WILL INFORM FUTURE GSSWA EVENT PLANNING AND COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK.





SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



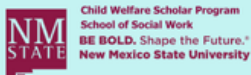
Angel Tree Project



Join the Angel Tree Project - Holiday Gift Drive and support children in state protective care. You can help by volunteering your time, donating gifts, or contributing funds to ensure every child feels remembered this season.

How You Can Help?

Use the QR code below to let us know how you would like to help!



NMSU ANNOUNCEMENT



NMSU

OUT-ober History Parade

Decorate a wagon, Win first place, win a prize!
Dress up as historical figures in the community!

LOOKING FOR:
VOLUNTEERS &
PARTICIPANTS!



ROOTED IN RESILIENCE

Oct 30
6:00 PM

STUDENT ORGS ARE WELCOMED
RESIDENTS ARE WELCOMED
EVERYONE IS WELCOMED!




Voting on the winning wagons will be a Pre OUT-ober Drag show Event!

Down I-Mall!







NMSU ANNOUNCEMENT

ALMA'S KITCHEN

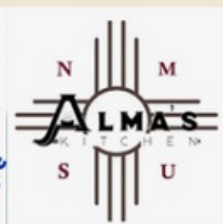
MUTUAL AID DAY

HONORING LATINX HERITAGE
MONTH THROUGH SUPPORT AND
SOLIDARITY



100% of the day's sales will be
donated to Mesilla Valley
Community of Hope Tent City.
Want to donate in kind? Durable
bags, wagons, tarps, rain slickers,
men's clothing—especially
underwear—is most needed.

OCT 16 @ 8AM-3PM
FRENGER FOOD COURT





NMSU ANNOUNCEMENT

October 2025 American Indian Program INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY/WEEK

MON
13

Opening Ceremony – Blessing by Tortugas Pueblo

- 10:00AM | AISC Courtyard

A:Shiwi Odi:kwe Dance Group

- 10:30 & 11:30 AM | AISC Courtyard

TUES
14

UNAO Crazy Clay Event

- 4:00 – 6:00 PM | AISC NTR 112

WED
15

Home on a Plate – Food Series

- 6:30–7:30 PM | AISC Building

THUR
16

Coalition to STOP Violence Against Native Women – Tentative

- 5:00 – 6:00 PM | AISC NTR 112

SAT
18

Field Trip: Land of the People Exhibit

- 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM | Branigan Cultural Center
- RSVP through Crimson Connection

SUN
19

Support Fall Enchilada Fundraiser

- 11:00 – 12:30 PM | Tortugas Pueblo
- email us to sign up amerind@nmsu.edu

TUES
21

Cornhusk Doll Workshop

- 12:00 – 1:30 PM | Corbett Outdoor Stage



- AISC – American Indian Student Center
- NTR – North Training Room
- UNAO – United Native American Organization



The Social Buzz



socialwork.nmsu.edu 13





NMSU ANNOUNCEMENT

Borderlands & Ethnic Studies *presents*

THINK INSIDE THE BOX

October 17th
4:30-6:30pm



This mobile museum offers opportunities to critically explore place-based content and exhibit design as a novel approach to curriculum co-development.

Our grand opening will include remarks, refreshments, and music!

RSVP here:



Preciado Park (NE Corner)
682 Gregg St., NMSU



CLICK
HERE!



The Social Buzz



socialwork.nmsu.edu 14





NMSU ANNOUNCEMENT



Graduate Research & Arts 2025 Symposium

SHAPING THE FUTURE SINCE 1896

[CLICK HERE](#)

Posters, artistic, and
oral presentations



October 31, 2025



Corbett Center



Awards available!



Submit your abstract due October 10th



@nmsugsc



GSCVPAactivities@nmsu.edu



The Social Buzz



socialwork.nmsu.edu 15





COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT



**CENTER FOR
EXCELLENCE**
IN SOCIAL WORK

Student Advocacy & Action (SANA) Networking • Training • Day at the Legislature

The **NMHU FVSSW Center for Excellence in Social Work's** SANA is an opportunity for BSW and MSW social work students across New Mexico to come together to learn about macro social work, the state legislative process, policy making, community organizing and advocacy. SANA allows for networking through a New Mexico MSWSN chapter, learning through statewide meetings and an in-person SANA Day at the state legislature during the session.

What is Student
Advocacy &
Action (SANA)?



CLICK HERE



NM MSWSN Chapter Meetings

Let's meet! You're invited to a kick-off meeting for the **New Mexico Macro Social Work Student Network (MSWSN) Chapter**. Please join us on Thursday, **October 16 from 10 am–11 am via Zoom**. Can't make that date/time? Let us know your meeting preferences.



SCAN HERE

What we'll be discussing: interested in learning about the NM state legislative process, have a policy issue for which you'd like to advocate, want to connect with other social work students, want to support policy change for social work students, professionals and the clients and communities they serve? Then this meeting is for you!



Mark your calendar! The upcoming 30-day session will run from January 20–February 19, 2026, and we want you to be at the State Capital Building (Roundhouse) in Santa Fe with us. Social work students are invited to attend Behavioral Health Day at the Roundhouse, which will also be our in-person **Student Advocacy & Action (SANA) Day at the Legislature**.

Questions? Learn about the NMHU FVSSW Center for Excellence in Social Work at nmcsw.org. Contact us at ceswnm@nmhu.edu. Call us at 505-429-1340.





COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

AI SKILLS ROADTRIP OPPORTUNITY

The AI Skills Roadtrip is an upcoming documentary that will feature three young people as they travel across the country in our bright green RV. Along the way, they'll meet inspiring leaders from a wide range of industries—each using AI in powerful, creative ways. Through these conversations, they'll explore how AI skills are opening doors in unexpected fields, driving innovation, and helping people make a real impact. It's a front-row seat to the future of work—and how anyone can be part of it.

Here's some key information about the AI Skills Roadtrip:

- **What is the opportunity:**

- Next spring, Roadtrip Nation will send three young people on a road trip to meet and interview inspiring professionals who are using AI in impactful ways. This journey will expose them to new career paths, powerful stories, and opportunities to explore how AI can shape their futures.
- The journey will be filmed and turned into a documentary special airing on public television, as part of Roadtrip Nation's long running series.
- Roadtrip Nation will work with participants to make sure this opportunity is accessible, providing a generous stipend for personal expenses, as well as covering travel costs. There may also be future paid opportunities after the experience to continue participating in conversations at screenings and events to celebrate the documentary.

- **When is the timing:**

- The application is open from October 14 - December 14
- The road trip will take place in April of 2026
- Documentary is estimated to air on Public Television in early 2027

- **Where can people apply**

- Directly at rtn.is/ai-skills-roadtrip (*note: link not live until application launches on October 14)

- **Who exactly are you looking for:**

- Three individuals (age 18+) who are curious and open to exploring AI's role in their future (It's OK if there's a little bit of nervousness about AI, or don't know much about the tech—this trip is all about learning!)





COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

6 Continuing
Education Hours
Available!



Annual Conference Positive School Culture & Climate

October 17th 2025

Presenter Brent D. Burnham

Indian Pueblo Cultural Center

2401 12th Street NW, Albq. NM 87104

7:30am - 4:30pm

Conference Fees

Member: \$75

Non-Member: \$150

Student and Retired Members: \$30

Membership: \$50

Breakfast Buffet
Available



New Mexico School Counselor Association has been approved by NBCC as an Approved Continuing Education Provider, ACEP No. 2091. Programs that do not qualify for NBCC credit are clearly identified. New Mexico School Counselor Association is solely responsible for all aspects of the programs.

Conference registration:
<https://www.nmschoolcounselor.org>
Click on Events





COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

COMMUNITY WELLNESS NIGHT

Fall into Wellness

Hosted by LCPS Physical Education
Department & Athletics Department

 Wednesday, October 22

 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

 FOD Baseball Complex

VENDOR REGISTRATION

- Bring your own table, chairs, and tent
- Provide an interactive game or activity
- Setup begins at 3:30 PM

Scan to
Register

REGISTER





COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors *Rising Together: Shaping the Future of Social Work in a Time of Accelerated Change*



NATIONAL STUDENT RESEARCH POSTER COMPETITION



NEW ORLEANS		FEBRUARY 27, 2026
<u>CALL FOR PROPOSALS</u> The Call for Student Proposals for the 2026 National BPD Student Research Poster Competition is open! Proposals are due by November 30, 2026 at 4:30 pm EST Submit Proposals at: https://forms.office.com/r/WsizEBF sAD 	<u>COMPETITION OVERVIEW</u> Individual and group projects are welcome as they relate to the following: Category 1: Empirical Research Projects (Qualitative or Quantitative) Category 2: Non-Empirical Projects (e.g., Historical Research, Conceptual Research, Policy Analysis, Critical Literature Reviews) Category 3: Community Service Focused Projects Projects focused on Older Adults are encouraged, as they will be considered for the Mit Joyner Gerontology Award The top BSW student presentations will receive a modest monetary award.	<u>STUDENT CONFERENCE</u> The BPD Conference takes place February 25-28, 2026, with the Student Conference on Friday, February 27 th . Students must register for the conference! The student rate is \$100 or a discounted registration of \$25.00 is available to students who volunteer for at least 4 hours throughout the conference. Conference registration allows students to attend the full BPD conference as well as the Student Conference. Notification of acceptance will be sent by December 15, 2025

CLICK
HERE





SW FACULTY RECOGNITION

Welcome back students! Last Spring we launched a **Faculty Recognition program**. We are excited to continue recognizing faculty this year. If there is an instructor/advisor/administrator who has helped you during your time at NMSU, consider nominating them for this honor. Please scan the QR code or click link below to vote!

CLICK HERE

Outstanding Faculty Recognition Form





SW STUDENT PEER SUPPORT

How SW Student Peer Support can Help!



Emotional Support

With the most current events and changes, we are here to listen to your concerns, provide a safe space for all thoughts and feelings, and offer coping strategies. You are not alone, and we are in this together!



Academic Support

We are students too, and we want to share our knowledge and tips to help you all succeed as you navigate the Social Work Program and develop the skills and confidence throughout your journey



Professional Development

We can help you with all inquiries regarding resume building, filling out applications, interview preparation, career planning, skill development, and networking opportunities



Community Building

We strive to create an inclusive and welcoming environment where students can build meaningful connections with their peers through social events, meet & greets, and collaborative learning experiences



Scan here to make an appointment with us:

We hope to connect with you!





OFFICE HOURS

Monday
5 PM - 7 PM

Tuesday
7 AM - 9 AM / 5 PM - 8 PM

Wednesday
7 AM - 9 AM

Thursday
7 AM - 9 AM / 5 PM - 8 PM

Friday
7 AM - 9 AM / 1 PM - 7 PM

Can't meet at these times? Schedule
an appointment using our QR code!

Office Location:

HSS Building, 2nd floor, room 201

Zoom Link:

[https://nmsu.zoom.us/j/831912592
21#success](https://nmsu.zoom.us/j/83191259221#success)



nmsu_socialworkpeersupport





SW CAREERS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Careers & Opportunities webpage dedicated to connecting you with meaningful job openings. From roles within NMSU to opportunities in the broader community, this page is designed to help you find positions that align with your passion and expertise. Visit the page to explore the latest listings and take the next step in your career!



Careers & Opportunities



CONNECT WITH US

School of Social Work Website



Facebook



Instagram



Stay tuned for the latest updates, stories, and highlights from the School of Social Work!

In next week's edition, we'll bring you:

- Spotlights on Recent Achievements
- Upcoming Events and Workshops
- Student and Faculty Features
- Useful Resources and Tips

Got something to share or a question to ask?

Feel free to reach out to us:

✉ socwork@nmsu.edu

☎ Phone: 575-646-2143

🏢 Office: HSS 210

We'd love to hear from you and feature your news in our next issue!

