

The Social Buzz

School of Social Work

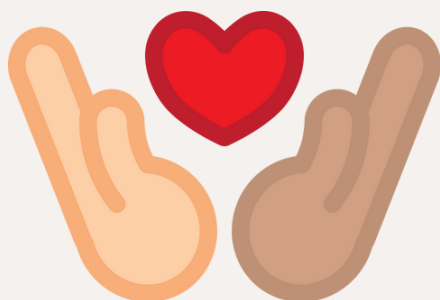
April 23- April 29, 2025

MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR

Hello!

Last week registration began, and there were a few blips. As many of you know, we are down an academic advisor which has meant your amazing program coordinators, faculty and staff have been picking up the load (on top of teaching, grading, admissions, and planning graduation!). I appreciate all of your patience. I am pleased to announce Gabriel Davilla has been hired to provide some additional assistance on an interim basis. We are also planning to hire a new academic advisor, whom we hope to have in place this summer.

In the meantime, keep reaching out if you need assistance with registration, advising, or other concerns. We may be just a bit slow in responding, but are doing our best to make sure everyone is supported and ready to start their classes this summer and fall.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mary Nienow".

Dr. Mary Nienow, Director





School of Social Work Research Spotlight



left to right, Dr. Stacy Gherardi, Lindley Hornsby, and Dr. Kimberly Knox

Dr. Kimberly Knox, Dr. Stacy Gherardi and MSW/MPH Student Lindley Hornsby have 2 research articles accepted for publication, they are titled: School Social Workers Preparation for Special Education Practice: An Exploratory Study accepted to The International Journal of School Social Work, and Exploring State Differences in School Social Worker Preparation to Deliver Special Education Services to Children & Schools. Both articles discuss how school social workers are prepared to be Related Services School Social Workers, and explore state required licensure and preparation differences.





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As a GA, I had the great fortune of working with both Dr. Gherardi and Dr. Knox over the past three years. The professors' school social work research piqued my interest because prior to graduate school, I was a preschool teacher at a school with *no* school social workers. I struggled to have conversations with parents about early intervention and other social-emotional needs of students that spanned outside of the classroom. I did not realize school social work was a thing

After moving to New Mexico and beginning my assistantship with Dr. Gherardi, I quickly learned the value of school social workers in the pk-12 setting from doing literature reviews, and I became interested in school social work training. Two years later when I was assigned to work with Dr. Knox, I did more literature reviews, this time focusing on the intersection of school social work, state-specific preparation requirements and social work training to service students with disabilities.

Through my work as a GA, I became aware of the reality that the body of research that informs school social work pre-service training and school social work practice is lacking. Given the limitations of school social work peer-reviewed literature, I am proud to have been a part of a team that has contributed two works to the existing body of research. Furthermore, I am appreciative that our work focused on meeting the needs of students with exceptionalities, an area of expertise in which I had no previous training.

I am hopeful that our work will support preparation initiatives for school social work practitioners as well as inspire inquiries for school social work-focused educators. I am grateful that our School of Social Work is home to faculty that specialize in school social work, and I look forward to seeing the growth of school social work as a specialization at NMSU!

Lindley Hornsby
GA, MSW/MPH Student

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GRADUATION 2025 – WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW!

For School of Social Work Students (BSW & MSW)

Are you ready to graduate but feeling a little confused? Don't worry — we've got you covered! 🎉


Here's everything you need to know about **Commencement** and the **School of Social Work Pinning & Hooding Ceremony** — yes, you can attend both!


NMSU Commencement (University-Wide)

Location: Pan American Center

Live Stream: Watch on [NMSU's YouTube](#)


Graduate Ceremony (For MSW):

 Friday, May 9, 2025

 6:00 PM

Undergraduate Ceremony (For BSW):

 Saturday, May 10, 2025


 9:00 AM


 [Logistics for NMSU Commencement](#)

School of Social Work Pinning & Hooding Ceremony

We'll Pin our BSW graduates and Hood our MSW graduates!

Virtual (Global Campus students):


 Thursday, May 8, 2025


 6:00 PM

[Live Stream Link](#)

In-Person:


 Saturday, May 10, 2025


 4:00 PM


 ASNMSU Center for the Arts

 [Logistics for Pinning & Hooding Ceremony](#)

What You Need To Do:

 Apply for your degree

 Buy your Regalia (required for Commencement; optional for Pinning/Hooding)

 Order your diploma

🎉 You've worked hard—let's celebrate you the right way!
Got questions?

Reach out to Maribel Lopez mkeeper@nmsu.edu



The Social Buzz



socialwork.nmsu.edu 4




🎓 Student Volunteers Needed Pinning & Hooding Ceremony 🎓

We're looking for 10–12 student volunteers to assist with our upcoming Pinning and Hooding Ceremony! This is a great opportunity to get involved, support your fellow graduates, and be part of a meaningful tradition.

Volunteer Duties May Include:

- Assisting with guest seating
- Guiding graduates through the ceremony process
- Distributing programs and pins
- General event support

 Date: May 10th

 Location: ASNMSU Center for the Arts

 Time Commitment: 3:00 PM – 7:00 PM

If you're interested in helping out, please complete the short form below:

👉 [Sign Up HERE](#)

We appreciate your support and look forward to working with you!





Hey Social Work Students – Want to Make a Difference?

We're now accepting nominations for the 2025–2026 GSSWA Officer Team—and we'd love for YOU to get involved!

With everything happening in the world and in our field, strong student voices and leadership matter more than ever. This is more than just a leadership role—it's a chance to advocate for your peers, influence decisions, and help build a more inclusive, connected, and empowered student experience.

Whether you're on campus or online, this is your opportunity to be part of something that truly matters.

About GSSWA – Our Mission, Vision, and Purpose

GSSWA exists to support students throughout their time in the social work program. Our mission is to ensure that every student feels heard, empowered, and equipped to succeed both academically and personally.

We advocate for student needs at both the individual and system levels, foster meaningful connections between students and faculty, and strive to build a stronger, more inclusive community within the School of Social Work.

Serving as a GSSWA officer offers a chance to:

- Advocate for your peers
- Represent student interests
- Help shape the student experience
- Build leadership skills in a collaborative, supportive environment

Available Officer Positions

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- LAC Representatives (3 positions)
- Global Representatives (3 positions – Online Students Only)

How to Nominate

You can nominate yourself or another student by visiting this link: [GSSWA Officer Nominations 2025-2026](#)Links to an external site., **by April 25th**. Once nominations are in, we'll follow up with a brief election to finalize the officer team before the end of the semester.

If you have any questions or want to learn more about the roles available, please don't hesitate to reach out!

Avianna Amancio
2024-2025 GSSWA President





ALBUQUERQUE MSW SOCIAL - SPRING '25
2381 AZTEC NE, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87107
FRIDAY 4.25.25 5:00-7:00P



EMAIL RSVP OR QUESTIONS TO ANNA OR SEAN
HORNER@NMSU.EDU OR SEANPAUL@NMSU.EDU

Hello fellow MSWs!

Reminder about the Spring Abq-Based MSW Social THIS Friday, April 25th from 5:00-7:00p at Canteen Brewhouse (2381 Aztec Rd NE). Canteen has NA beverages and delicious snacks and dinner.

See and share flyer attached!

We'll send another reminder on Thursday! Hope to see you there!

**Warmly,
Anna Horner and Sean Cardinalli**





**NMSU DEPARTMENT OF
GOVERNMENT STUDENTS
WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU
WIN A \$25 VISA GIFT CARD IF YOU
FILL OUT THIS SURVEY**



**For more information, contact:
Survey Administrator: Daniel Gomez
(dmgomez@nmsu.edu)
or
NMSU Human Research Department
(ovpr@nmsu.edu)**





BSW and MSW Students!

The School of Social Work is hiring 3 College Assistant Professors and your input is VALUABLE! Join us for the student interviews of the finalists on the following dates and times:

Thursday, April 24th at 4:00 p.m.
Interviewee: Marisa Gonzalez

Monday, April 28th at 4:00 p.m.
Interviewee: Amanda Ortiz

Tuesday, April 29th at 4:00 p.m.
Interviewee: Angelina Valdespino

Here is the zoom link:

<https://nmsu.zoom.us/j/4423658548>





CONGRATS!

CLASS OF 2025



Let's Celebrate!

Meet up with your social work cohort
for drinks, food, and conversation

Bosque Brewing Co.

University Ave.

May 8th, 2025

5-7pm (ish)





OPPORTUNITIES

Applications are now open to be a **Student Liaison for NASW New Mexico**. The NASW-New Mexico (NASW-NM) Student Liaison Program is designed to identify students at all levels of social work education within New Mexico who will serve as a vital link between their respective programs and NASW-NM. This initiative aims to strengthen the relationship between universities and the NASW New Mexico Chapter, fostering a network of student advocates for the social work profession. Liaisons will help ensure that social work students are engaged and informed about NASW-NM activities, advocacy, and events and will encourage greater participation in the broader social work community. Through this program, we are committed to promoting diversity, equity and inclusion and to actively addressing and dismantling systemic racism in our communities. We believe in creating a just and fair society for all.

For more information, [click here](#)

EOP Short-Term Urban Project

Urban funding to support New Mexico School-Based Mental Health graduate students in Albuquerque, Santa Fe, and Las Cruces is back! Qualified fields of study include social work, counseling, psychology, and applied behavior analysis. Licensure Reimbursement up to \$300 is also available for graduate students who have successfully obtained a license in social work, counseling, psychology, or applied behavior analysis within the past year.

Applications for the Urban EOP Academic Support, Practicum/Internship, and Licensure Reimbursement Stipends will open on March 3, 2025. Funding is limited and first come first served to qualified applicants. Applications will remain open until funding runs out or **August 29, 2025 (whichever comes sooner)**.

EOP participants who have received rural funding and attested to work in a rural school are not eligible for urban funding.

For more information and to apply please visit the [NMEOP Urban Project Website](#).

JTR Scholarship for Latino students studying behavioral health. The student must apply on the NLBHA website. The deadline to apply is Wednesday, **April, 30th by 5pm**.

For more information and to apply visit: <https://nlbha.org/news/2025-2026-jtrscholarship/>





Healthcare and Communication: Contexts and Communities

April 24, 2025



Dr. Maricel G. Santos
San Francisco State U

“Towards Linguistic Acceptance in Health Care: Who are the ‘good’ patients?”

May 1, 2025



Dr. Rachel Showstack
Wichita State U

“Partnerships for Health Care Access in Multilingual Contexts: Building Interdisciplinary and Community Coalitions for Structural Change”

May 15, 2025



Dr. Dalia Magaña
UC Merced

“Centering Latinas’ Breast Cancer Narratives to Enhance Linguistic and Cultural Proficiency in Healthcare”

May 29, 2025



Dae Romero, MA
New Mexico State U

“Navigating Communication through Empathy”

June 5, 2025



Francisco Ronquillo, PA, MA
UNM Health Sciences

“Innovations in Community-based Health Care”

All presentations
scheduled on Thursdays,
1:00-2:15 p.m. MDT
on Zoom

Registration (free) is
required to join
events in this series



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FINANCIAL SUPPORT!

EOP Short-Term Urban Project

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Student Spotlight

We want to celebrate the incredible achievements and talents of our students! Whether it's for academic excellence, leadership, creativity, or any other noteworthy accomplishment, we'd love to hear about it. Students are welcome to self-nominate, or you can nominate a fellow student who deserves recognition. Please submit your nominations through the form below and help us spotlight the outstanding individuals in our community!





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!



Career Listings

Internal Opportunities (NMSU)

1. Please visit [NMSU's Career Website](#)
2. [Extension District/State Specialist/Behavioral Health, Cooperative Extension Service](#)
3. [Lead Academic Advisor, School of Social Work](#)

External Opportunities (Community)

1. The State of NM, Office of the Governor
 1. [Department of Finance & Administration–Project Manager: Prevention and Emergency Response Initiatives](#)
 2. [Department of Finance & Administration–Project Manager: Youth and Family Initiatives](#)
 3. [Executive Director for New Mexico Chapter of NASW](#)
 4. [Eight \(8\) Northern Indian Pueblo Council Career Opportunities](#)
 5. [ENIPC, INC. Behavioral Health Services](#)
 1. Therapist
 2. Clinical Supervisors
 6. [Contract Social Worker: University of New Mexico of Law Clinic](#)
 7. [Program Coordinator, Southwest Behavioral & Health Services](#)

Careers & Opportunities



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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:

✉ mkeeper@nmsu.edu

☎ Phone: 575-646-7599

🏢 Office: HSS 210F

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

