



# The Social Buzz



## School of Social Work

**January 29 - February 4, 2025**

### MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR

Dear Students,

As I stated in my message to you over the weekend, I want to acknowledge the impact recent federal policy changes are having on our community. I also want to reassure you that your faculty, SSW staff, and myself, are here to provide whatever support you may need. We are actively meeting and discussing how we will continue to provide a safe learning environment for everyone. You'll see in this week's Buzz the flyer of resources I sent before, as well as a link to our website, with up-to-date resources and information. Our Peer Mentors are also holding an in-person event tomorrow to provide support (and donuts!)-see information below. Finally, Dr. Finno-Velasquez will be leading a mindfulness support session NEXT Friday, February 7 from 12-1 p.m. via Zoom-stay tuned to next week's Buzz for more information.

Some inspiration as we move forward,

*"Everyone has a right to be who they are. We're all related, after all. When we know this, we can solve almost any problem in front of us." - LaDonna Harris, Comanche leader and activist*



Dr. Mary Nienow, Director





**DONUTS WITH**

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**PEER  
SUPPORT**

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**THURSDAY, JANUARY 30TH**

**STARTS AT 10:00 AM**

**HSS BUILDING, 2ND FLOOR**

**OUR TEAM IS HERE TO HELP. SCHEDULE A MEETING WITH US**





# YOU ARE INVITED

**NM**  
**STATE**

## **Practicum Informational Meeting for BSW Juniors**

**This meeting will include information about the process to start your practicum and about the required Tevera system and how to purchase. This information will focus on Practicum for Fall 2025!**

### **EVENT DATE:**

**Friday, January 31,  
2025**

### **EVENT TIME:**

**12:30 to 1:30 PM**

### **EVENT LOCATION:**

**Zoom**

**<https://nmsu.zoom.us/join/register/0U3cdif-SeerH4p1DsTyvQ>**

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

**For more information  
contact:  
[sfacio@nmsu.edu](mailto:sfacio@nmsu.edu)  
[mtellez@nmsu.edu](mailto:mtellez@nmsu.edu)**





## Join Us for our new Social Work Faculty Candidate Student Session Interview!

We're thrilled to invite you to join us for the interviews of three exceptional candidates for our faculty position. This is a wonderful opportunity to engage with them and learn about their vision and expertise!

**Join us for this engaging session on**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 31ST**

**1:30PM-2:30PM:**

 **Link**



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**School of Social Work**





# STUDENT SUPPORT RESOURCES

## NMSU Police Department

(575)646-3311  
police@nmsu.edu

## SSW Peer Mentors



## NMSU DACA



## American Indian Program

(575)646-4207  
amerid@nmsu.edu

## Black Student Programs

(575)646-4208  
blackpro@nmsu.edu

## Border Servant Corps

(575)805-2832  
info@bscnm.org

## Children Thrive Action Network

Visit [childrenthriveaction.org](http://childrenthriveaction.org) for more info

## NMSU Latin American Program

(575)646-4206  
aclopez@nmsu.edu

## NMSU General Counsel

(575)646-2446  
gencounsel@nmsu.edu  
In instances of raids or other executive order related incidents on NMSU Campus

## NMSU Timely Care

(575)646-1512  
campus\_health@nmsu.edu  
<https://timelycare.nmsu.edu/>

## Global Student Resources

(575)646-3121  
globaladmissions@nmsu.edu

## LGBT PProgram

(575)646-7031  
lgbt@nmsu.edu

## Asian & Pacific Islander Program

(575)646-3680  
api\_support@nmsu.edu

## NM Immigration Law Center

Visit [nmilc.org](http://nmilc.org) or call (505)547-1023

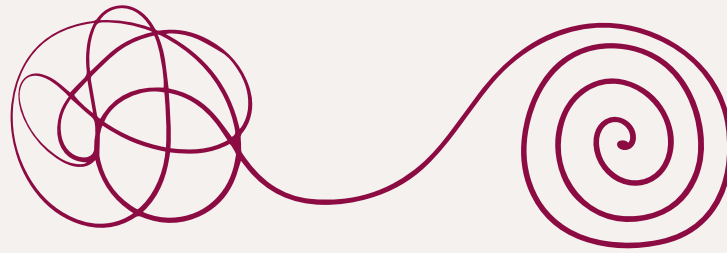
## Colonias NM

Visit [coloniasnm.org](http://coloniasnm.org) or call (575)647-2744



Visit our website for a complete list





## *Transform Your Life and Work Through Mindfulness: A Journey of Discovery and Growth*

Ready to enhance both your personal well-being and professional toolkit?

Join Dr. Finno-Velasquez for an immersive **3-credit MSW elective** that bridges ancient wisdom with cutting-edge neuroscience. In this 8-week minimester course, you'll discover how to integrate mindfulness into your workday while developing life-changing self-care strategies.

### **What you'll experience:**

- Practice evidence-based mindfulness techniques that benefit both you and your clients
- Explore research on how mindfulness transforms brain function, stress, and well-being
- Learn practical ways to integrate mindfulness into your practice with clients
- Develop a sustainable self-care routine that prevents burnout and enhances resilience in the demands of graduate school life

Classes meet Thursdays from 5:30-8pm, March 17-May 9. Don't miss this opportunity to transform your approach to your professional life while investing in your own well-being. Enroll in Mindfulness in the Helping Professions and Everyday Life today!



**DEVIN FIELDS**  
Academic Advisor  
fieldsd@nmsu.edu

**SOWK 5996**  
**Main Campus**  
Section: M83 CRN: 49562  
**Global Campus**  
Section: U83 CRN: 49485



## IMPORTANT REMINDER



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College of Health, Education  
and Social Transformation

# Scholarship Information AY2025-2026



Scholar  
Dollar\$



## Apply Today!

New Mexico State University's College of HEST would like to remind you that the online application for scholarships is **available now**.

**APPLY TODAY FOR SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY!**



TO APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS visit  
[scholarships.nmsu.edu](https://scholarships.nmsu.edu)

**APPLY TODAY**

**\*Priority deadline is March 1st, 2025.** Applicants who submit their applications before this date will be given first consideration.

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT FINANCIAL AID &  
SCHOLARSHIP OFFICE!**

**NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY!**

College of HEST Scholarship Coordinator:  
Sapphira Garner, email: [HEST@nmsu.edu](mailto:HEST@nmsu.edu)





**Please register whether you are attending in person or via zoom**  
**Registration Required**

**JESSICA  
TOFT**

PhD, MSW, LISW



**GUEST  
SPEAKER**

**DARING TO ENVISION  
PROFESSIONAL DISCRETION  
AND BETTER WORKING CONDITIONS  
FOR SOCIAL WORKERS**

**11TH  
FEB**

In this public talk, Dr. Toft actively engages the audience to think about the nature and importance of professional discretion of social workers and how social workers can fight for it in today's challenging workplaces. Her team undertook a statewide anonymous survey and confidential interviews on the effects of intensified business management on social workers' practice and working conditions. Social workers experience considerable pressure to work quickly, take on more clients, labor under commission-based structures, and more. Amid such conditions, findings show that social workers' practice discretion is markedly limited. Yet, social workers are resisting, and their varied examples deserve careful consideration for today's social work practice. Toft invites attendees to learn from the historical record of the myriad ways social workers have fought for professional discretion and better working conditions amid shifting political, social, and economic contexts. This account illustrates that while social workers' resistance may have been muted under neoliberal social welfare policies over the last 45 years, there is a lengthier history of social work solidarity that we can learn from for the professional fights ahead.

**Domenici Hall 109**

1305 Frenger St.  
Las Cruces, NM

**Register**



**12:00pm-1:30pm**

Lunch will be served at  
12-12:15pm



**The Social Buzz**

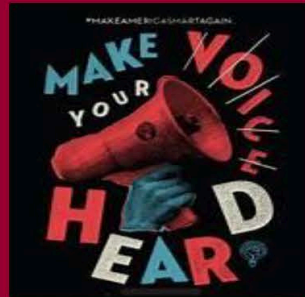


socialwork.nmsu.edu 8





# Make your Voice Heard



## Join Faculty and Students for **SANA** (Student Advocacy & Action) Day

at the Legislature in Santa Fe  
Wednesday, February 26, 2025  
9:00 am – 4:00 pm (Lunch Provided)

This free event is for students interested in learning about the NM legislative session, policy, advocacy and action! Students will have the opportunity to connect, see the legislative session in action, and participate in SANA and Behavioral Health Day at the Legislature activities. Notable speakers will present about policy, advocacy and community organizing. Lunch will be provided. \*Practicum agencies are encouraged to consider providing credit to students for participating in this event.

For more information and  
possible funding visit

[bit.ly/register-  
SANA-day](https://bit.ly/register-SANA-day)

OR



For More Information  
Contact Mari Tellez

Practicum Director at [tellezm@nmsu.edu](mailto:tellezm@nmsu.edu)



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College of Health, Education  
and Social Transformation  
School of Social Work

in Partnership with Center for Excellence at Highlands University





**CENTER FOR  
EXCELLENCE**  
IN SOCIAL WORK

*Registration for SANA Day is Open!*

**Student Advocacy & Action (SANA) Day at the Legislature**  
**February 26 from 9 am–4 pm**



**SCAN ME**

[bit.ly/register-SANA-day](https://bit.ly/register-SANA-day)

**Morning**  
**at the New Mexico State Legislature**

- Attend Behavioral Health Day at the Legislature Events (it's also on 2/26!)
- Experience the Legislative Session in Action
- Share about Your Legislative Interests
- Learn about Advocacy and Action

**Apply for a \$50  
Advocacy & Action  
Stipend/Honorarium**

- Deadline Feb 5<sup>th</sup>

**Afternoon**  
**at NMHU Santa Fe Center**

- Networking Opportunities
- Lunch Provided
- Notable Speakers
- Learning Opportunities:  
Advocacy & Action + Behavioral Health  
& Community Organizing



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**SANA**

**STUDENT ADVOCACY & ACTION  
DAY AT THE LEGISLATURE 2025**





# PRACTICUM FAIR

Don't miss the chance to attend the practicum fair and student workforce panel, where you can meet with agencies face-to-face and have on-the-spot placement interviews.



DATE  
February 28, 2025



TIME  
08.30AM -12.00PM



ACTIVITY CENTER, NMSU  
1572 STEWART ST. LAS CRUCES, NM 88003



# STUDENT WORKFORCE PANEL



DATE  
February 28, 2025



TIME  
01.30PM-4.00PM



TBA  
NMSU LAS CRUCES CAMPUS



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FOR MORE INFO

BSW: SFACIO@NMSU.EDU

MSW MAIN: TNIETO@NMSU.EDU

MSW GLOBAL: MDNUNEZ@NMSU.EDU

**REGISTER NOW**

This is an opportunity to stand out, bring extra resumes, dress professionally, and aim to leave a lasting impression.





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IN SOCIAL WORK



Facundo Valdez School  
of Social Work

# NEW MEXICO SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION SUMMIT

## The Future of Social Work

March 28, 2025  
Albuquerque, NM

*Event Registration*  
**NOW OPEN!**

[bit.ly/sw-ed-summit-2025](https://bit.ly/sw-ed-summit-2025)

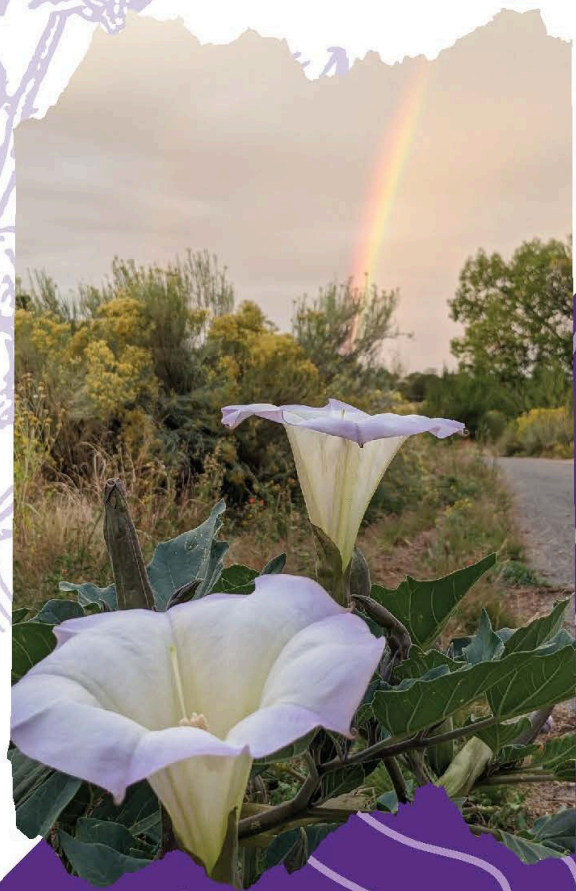


Photo by Newt Russell



## STAY CONNECTED

Exciting News for Our Social Work Community! We've launched a new 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!



CLICK HERE



## BUZZ IN NEXT WEEK

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!

