

# The Social Buzz

## School of Social Work

September 12- September 18, 2024

### MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Hello!

I hope the semester is progressing well. I find this is often the time when folks start to get sick...whether it's the interaction with new classmates and professors, a change in schedule (e.g. starting internship), or all the looming assignment deadlines. Last week I had a chance to attend the Health and Wellness Center Open House



and was amazed by all the resources available-from prescriptions to flu shots, counseling to birth control, they seem to have it all. So, if you are starting to get a scratch in your throat: 1. Drink plenty of liquids 2. Get some rest (did you know good sleep hygiene is more correlated with good grades than studying??) 3. Get your flu shot and 4. Get outside (some doctors are starting to write "nature prescriptions"). And while meeting new people may expose us to new germs, it also benefits us mentally and physically, so don't be shy-attend one of the MANY events highlighted in this newsletter and let us US support YOU to stay connected and in good health.



*Mary Nienow*

Dr. Mary Nienow, Director



The Social Buzz



socialwork.nmsu.edu

## ABOUT



The Social Buzz newsletter serves as a key communication tool, keeping students, faculty, and alumni informed about the school news, events, and achievements. It fosters a sense of community, provides educational content, and supports professional development by sharing resources, job opportunities, and updates on social work practice. Additionally, the newsletter promotes school's programs, enhances recruitment efforts, and advocates for social justice issues, thereby connecting and engaging the broader social work community.

## T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST

The School of Social Work is hosting a t-shirt design contest! We invite students to create an original design that embodies the spirit of our School of Social Work.

### Contest Rule:

- Must be an undergraduate or graduate student in the School of Social Work
- Entries should capture the essence of social work and the impact of the School of Social Work
- The design must be a single color (white)
- The design must include the name of School of Social Work
- Submit your design as a high-resolution JPG or PNG file



Email your entry to [mkeeper@nmsu.edu](mailto:mkeeper@nmsu.edu) by 5:00pm on September 25th to be considered.



### School of Social Work Earns Distinguished Mention in Journal of Public Child Welfare

We are proud to announce that Dr. Megan Finno-Velasquez, Dr. Anayeli Lopez, and dual MSW/MPH Graduate Sophia Sepp, members from the School of Social Work, have received a “Distinguished Mention” in the Journal of Public Child Welfare’s Article of the Year Award for their groundbreaking research.

Their article, “Child Maltreatment Prevention Interventions for Latinx Immigrant Populations: A Systematic Review”, published last year, addresses critical issues impacting Latinx immigrant communities and explores interventions aimed at preventing child maltreatment.

Their work has been recognized for its significant contribution to child welfare research, and we are thrilled to celebrate their well-deserved recognition. You can read their full article [\*\*HERE\*\*](#).

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Finno-Velasquez, Dr. Lopez, and Sophia on this remarkable achievement!





Child Welfare Scholar Program  
School of Social Work  
**BE BOLD. Shape the Future.\***  
New Mexico State University

**WIN A TRIP TO  
ATTEND A CHILD  
WELFARE  
NATIONAL  
CONFERENCE**

**SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK**

# MEET AND GREET



**SEPTEMBER 18, 2024  
4:00 PM- 5:00 PM**

**FREE PIZZA  
&  
SWAG BAGS**

## **MORE INFORMATION**

- Erica Tontodonati
- [ericat@nmsu.edu](mailto:ericat@nmsu.edu)

**DROP IN AND MEET YOUR  
SOCIAL WORK FACULTY  
AND STAFF**

### **Job Opportunity: BSW Juniors (2024-2025)**

NMSU HEST: School of Social Work is hiring 1 BSW Junior for the Peer Support team. This is a paid position (10 hrs/week @ \$13/hr) with both on-campus (Las Cruces) and virtual work.

Responsibilities:

Assist with student support sessions.

Maintain scheduled office hours (on-campus and virtual).

Present on topics relevant to BSW and MSW students.

Must be available for evenings and weekends.

To apply: Contact Professor Susie Facio at [sfacio@nmsu.edu](mailto:sfacio@nmsu.edu) or 575-646-1763.



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# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

**We need Score Keepers, Referees, Berm Builders, Runners, and more for the following shifts!**

- Friday, September 13 (8am-6pm/2 shifts)
- Saturday, September 14 (7am-7pm/ 3 shifts)

Interested?

Scan the QR code to volunteer for a shift  
or Contact Rose Ann Vasquez

575-449-2728

[roseann.vasquez@bbbsmountainregion.org](mailto:roseann.vasquez@bbbsmountainregion.org)



**Location: Blue Moon Bar & Grill**



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**Hello fellows MSWs!** As promised, this is a reminder about the upcoming ABQ-Based MSW 'Social' next week that a couple of us are 'hosting'. It's an opportunity for MSWs in Albuquerque to meet and socialize in person. Those who replied to the first announcement asking to be added to the forthcoming ABQ-based NMSU MSW contact list you have been added! Anyone else interested in being on the list reply to me to be so. Not sure what this list will be used for, maybe we can discuss at the social?! 'Social' details below.

**Who:** YOU!

**What:** ABQ-Based MSW 'Social'

**When:** Friday, September 13th from 4:30-6:30 PM

**Where:** Hollow Spirits\* at 1324 1st St NW Albuquerque

**Why:** Because online grad school is better with in-person community (maybe? 🤔)

Anna Horner and Sean Carinalli

Anna Horner, MSW Candidate, New Mexico State University, Impact Futures, Director  
651.269.0992, horner@nmsu.edu, annachristineh@gmail.com

## **Las Cruces Out of the Darkness Walk set for Sept. 14**

The Out of the Darkness Community Walks, organized by the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, give people the courage to open up about their own experiences and a platform to create a culture that's smarter about mental health. Friends, family members, neighbors and coworkers walk side-by-side, supporting each other and in memory of those we've lost. Now, more than ever, it's important to be there for one another and take steps to safeguard our mental health and prevent suicide.

Join or create a team with your NMSU colleagues and students. Let's show Las Cruces that NMSU supports community efforts to break down the stigma around suicide. **The walk will take place at 9 a.m.**

**Saturday, Sept. 14, at Young Park in Las Cruces.** For more information, contact Robyn Narvaez at 575-496-8532 or robynrehbein@gmail.com.

If you or someone you know is in crisis, call or text New Mexico's mental health crisis line at 988.



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## Looking for Faculty to serve as Judges

On Friday September 20, the NMSU Postdoc Association (PDA) is hosting the NM Postdoc Symposium- sponsored by several entities across NMSU (including the College of HEST). The PDA is looking for faculty to serve as judges for the research presentations. They will be oral, similar to that of an academic conference. Each session will be one hour in length and include 3-4 presenters based on topics/discipline. Each individual will have 10-12 minutes to present, with Q&A at the end. Mostly postdocs will be presented, but the symposium will also have a handful of doc student presentations. Folks will be in attendance from NMSU, UTEP, UNM, and Sandia and Los Alamos National Labs.

If you're interested in serving as a judge, please fill out this form: <https://forms.gle/kvtMDDgMj5V8qQAR8> Available times are in there, and you can select what works best in your schedule. Any questions can be directed to Maryanne Long (long2@nmsu.edu) as representative of the Postdoc Association.

### Workshop: Improving student motivation, engagement

Research shows that since the pandemic student engagement and motivation has dropped precipitously. On Friday, Sept. 20, Daniel Willingham, of the University of Virginia, will discuss recent psychological findings on two determinants of motivation: curiosity and feelings of self-efficacy. This research suggests some novel strategies that instructors can bring to their classrooms to increase student engagement.

- 8:30 to 10:15 a.m.: Keynote and Q&A in Milton Hall, Room 50 (register [here](#))
- 10:15 to 10:45 a.m.: Brunch (separate registration)
- Or 10:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.: Keynote and Q&A in Milton Hall, Room 50 (register [here](#))

For more information, contact Wendy Carreras at 575-646-2204 or [teaching@nmsu.edu](mailto:teaching@nmsu.edu).





A Las Cruces-based company is looking to hire tutors and is interested in working with undergraduate or graduate students from NMSU.

The K-12 students receiving online tutoring (in all subjects) are located in the Boston area. The company pays \$25-35/hour.

If you are interested, please contact:

Lisa Lewis  
Strayer University, Tutor and Educational Consultant

Cell Phone number:  
240-372-5192



## **Want your degree funded and a career as a diplomat?**

The U.S. Department of State has four fellowship programs that pay for the student's degree and lead directly to a career as a diplomat. Two of these programs — Pickering Fellowship and Rangel Fellowship — are open now for application.

These two fellowships will pay for the student's two-year master's degree in almost any field and lead directly to a career as a foreign service officer diplomat upon graduation. The fellowships also offer a strong professional development component that includes two paid summer internships (one domestic and one overseas), an orientation program and a pairing with a mentor. Those eligible to apply now are college seniors and recent grads with a 3.2 GPA minimum who plan to start a two-year master's degree in fall 2025, and who seek a career as a foreign service officer diplomat.

Learn more about these programs here and apply via the links on the fellowship websites. For more information, contact Antoinette Hurtado at 888-407-4747 or [DIRSouthwest@state.gov](mailto:DIRSouthwest@state.gov).



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## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

# RECOVERY IS FOR EVERYONE

EVERY PERSON, EVERY FAMILY, EVERY COMMUNITY



Pathways To Light



THE LAS CRUCES SUICIDE PREVENTION TASK FORCE PRESENTS  
8TH ANNUAL RECOVERY EVENT  
*CALLING ALL VENDORS*

### YOUTH SUMMIT

09/17/2024

DACC

11 AM - 1 PM



REGISTRATION

### RECOVERY EVENT

09/21/2024

YOUNG PARK

10 AM - 2 PM

**Register HERE**



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**October 3, 2024**

Lunch will be provided  
\$10.00 Fee

**Place:**  
**Organ Mountain**  
**High School**  
**Time: 8:30am-**  
**4:00pm**



**DR. AMANDA  
KELLY, BCBA-D**



**HECTOR ADAME,  
M.S. CCC-SLP,  
LBA-BCBA**

**FROM AWARENESS TO ACCEPTANCE:  
CULTIVATING UNDERSTANDING AND LOVE  
FOR AUTISM**

**Learn, share, and support.**  
**CEU's will be provided!**  
**NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY**  
**KNOWN FACILITATORS**

**for more information email - [heartsforautismle@gmail.com](mailto:heartsforautismle@gmail.com)**  
**Register with Link <https://forms.gle/GnSSunsWJjN6u79QA>**



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## RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Child Welfare Scholars are expected to attend at no cost and have priority. Registration for all others is on a first come first serve basis.

Scholarships available to participants facing financial hardships. Email us for information.



**VIRTUAL SESSION**

### 2-Day Licensing Exam Seminar

Facilitators will help participants understand the exam dynamics and demonstrate how to effectively use strategies for selecting and using the information provided within each exam item to choose the most appropriate choice to increase their success with the exam.



**MONICA MONTOYA**

PhD. Candidate, LCSW  
College Associate Professor



**MARIA GURROLA**

PhD. MSW  
College Associate Professor

\$50 STUDENTS  
\$75 NON-STUDENTS



**27 & 28  
SEPTEMBER 2024**  
FROM 9 AM TO 4 PM



**ERICA TONTODONATI**  
+575-646-5711  
ericat@nmsu.edu



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New Mexico State University

More Information: Erica Tontodonati at [ericat@nmsu.edu](mailto:ericat@nmsu.edu) or 575-646-5711



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**NM  
STATE**

# Ph.D. in Transborder and Global Human Dynamics

Deadline: December 1, 2024 for  
applicants wishing to start in Fall 2025.

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

The Ph.D. program in Transborder and Global Human Dynamics is designed to provide doctoral students with a rigorous program of cultural, anthropological, political, historical, artistic, literary, and linguistic subject matter in the social sciences and humanities. At the heart of the endeavor is a program that fosters the study of the cultural pluralism and social, economic, political, linguistic, and creative interactions that emerge from and shape the diverse practices, interpretations, and reproduction of transnational borders. Such a program is ideally suited to forge new interpretations, solutions, and understandings of relevant issues for scholars and students living and studying in the US-Mexico transborder region, with implications not only for our border region, but also for other border communities around the world.



## APPLY NOW

📞 +1 (575) 646-4935

📍 Breland Hall, Room 337

🌐 Scan the QR code for more  
information on our website.



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## EVENTS TO KEEP IN MIND



**Visit 2024 Academic  
Calendar for other  
Important Dates**

### **Unmasking Mental Health Masquerade Ball**

When Professionals Need Professionals

September 20, 2024, [RSVP HERE](#)

6:00pm-9:00pm

New Mexico Farm & Ranch Museum

Presented by Las Cruces SPTF

### **8th Annual Recovery Event**

September 21, 2024

10:00am - 2:00pm

Young Park, Las Cruces, NM

[Las Cruces Suicide Prevention Task Force](#)

### **Externship Emotionally Focused Couple Therapy (EFCT)**

Thursday October 31-Sunday, November 3, 2024

9:00am - 5:30pm

In Person Albuquerque, NM

[NM Community for Emotionally Focused Therapy](#)



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## IMPORTANT REMINDER



# SIP & SUPPORT

**DROP BY FOR COFFEE AND GET THE SUPPORT YOU  
NEED FROM YOUR SR. STUDENT PROGRAM  
COORDINATORS!**

**WHEN: THE LAST MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH  
TIME: 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM  
WHERE: HSS CANTEEN**

**CONNECT WITH YOUR SENIOR STUDENT  
PROGRAM COORDINATORS OVER A CUP OF  
COFFEE. WE'RE HERE TO HELP WITH ANY  
QUESTIONS, ADVICE, OR JUST TO CHAT.**



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## EMPLOYEE PERKS

### **Schedule Your Professional Headshot with NMSU-HEST Photographer Josh Bachman**

Faculty and staff can now schedule their professional headshot with NMSU-HEST Photographer Josh Bachman.

Book your session easily through his Calendly link:  
<https://calendly.com/photonmsu>



### **Perks and Discounts for NMSU employees:**

Big O Tires - \$10 off oil changes, \$5 off new batteries, Free air checks and digital car inspections.

Sports Accessories – 10% discount with NMSU ID.

Mom's Café – 10% discount with NMSU ID

Hilton Garden Inn Las Cruces – Locally negotiated rate of \$134/night.

Planet Fitness - \$24.99/mo. No startup fee, no cancellation, no contract.





## Stay Connected with Crimson Connection!

Looking for ways to engage with the NMSU community? Whether you're on campus or online, Crimson Connection has all the latest events happening at the university. From workshops and webinars to social gatherings and special lectures, there's something for everyone.

Click the link below to explore upcoming events and join in on the action!

[Explore Events on Crimson Connection](#)

### Walk-In IT Help Desk at Zuhl Library

NMSU Library is excited to announce Walk-In IT Help Desk at Zuhl Library. Friendly IT student technology experts will be available to assist students with a variety of technology needs from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Services offered include:

- Device troubleshooting: Get help with laptops, tablets and smartphones.
- Software assistance: Support for installing and using student software applications.
- Network connectivity: Help with Wi-Fi and internet issues.
- Account support: Assistance with email, student portals and password resets.

Don't miss this opportunity to get your tech questions answered. See you there. For more information, contact Erica Aguirre at 575-646-1508 or [aerica@nmsu.edu](mailto:aerica@nmsu.edu).



### 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](mailto: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!**



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