

# The Social Buzz



## School of Social Work

September 5- September 11, 2024

### MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Students,

Welcome back from the Labor Day break! I hope you all had a chance to relax and enjoy the cooler weather. I spent the time visiting with my daughter who flew down from Minnesota. We did the typical southern New Mexico tourist things-



White Sands, Pistachio Land and Cloud Croft. Last week I also had the great opportunity to connect with community members, students (Alma Ketcherside-MSW Program) and alums at the Dona Ana Resilience Leaders Mixer. I also visited FYI+ which hosts many of our interns and is providing incredible services to our community. Finally, I met up with our BSSWA organization leaders for their Welcome Back BBQ in Preciado Park. I continue to be impressed and humbled by all the amazing people I meet and opportunities we have in our small social work community. I hope you will take advantage of all the events and offerings featured in this week's newsletter.

Dr. Mary Nienow, Director



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## 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 advocated for social justice issues, thereby connecting and engaging the broader social work community.

## IMPORTANT REMINDER

Hey everyone!

We are about midway through our first month of the semester. We are settling into classes and seeing big assignments come due. If there are any issues that are coming up feel free to set up an appointment with me. You can use either the [Navigate Link](#) or the [Calendly link](#) whatever is best for you.



Devin Fields

**Academic Advisor**



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## IMPORTANT REMINDER



**September 6** is the last day to cancel registration WITHOUT a W and receive a 100% refund

[Visit 2024 Academic Calendar for other Important Dates](#)

### New and improved Wi-Fi now available at NMSU

Aggie-WIFI is a new and secure wireless network on campus. The NMSU community can log in to this new Wi-Fi using your NMSU username and passphrase. Aggie-WIFI does not require you to disable mac randomization like previous Wi-Fi's. For more information, contact IT Help Desk at 575-646-1840 and [help@nmsu.edu](mailto:help@nmsu.edu).



### Disability Accommodations and Support

If you have disability accommodations from Disability Access Services (DAS), it's essential to share them with your professors to ensure they can support your needs.

If you don't have accommodations but believe they might benefit you, or if you're curious about the process, I encourage you to reach out to either me or DAS. They even offer virtual office hours for students, making it easy to connect.

For more information, you can visit their website [here](#).



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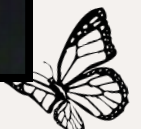
## SOCIAL WORK SPOTLIGHT

### Grant Awarded to Dr. Kimberly Knox and Dr. Stacy Gherardi

We are excited to announce that Dr. Kimberly Knox and Dr. Stacy Gherardi have been awarded a prestigious grant from the Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs. Their project, titled Project SWEET-SPED (Social Work Education to Enhance Training in Special Education), is part of the initiative, "Special Education-Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities."

This grant will support their efforts to advance the education and training of special education personnel, ultimately improving the services and outcomes for children with disabilities. Project SWEET-SPED will play a crucial role in bridging the gap between social work and special education, fostering collaboration to better address the unique needs of these children.

We congratulate Dr. Knox and Dr. Gherardi on this significant achievement and look forward to the positive impact their work will have on both the field of special education and the lives of children with disabilities.







## Career Fair Preparation Workshops: Sept. 4th & 10th

The Office of Experiential Learning will be hosting two Career Fair Preparation Workshops in preparation for the Career Expo and Engineering, Science & Technology Fair (Sept. 17th & 18th).

Please click on event link below for more information and to rsvp.

Please contact the NMSU Office of Experiential Learning at: 575-646-1631 or email: [oel@nmsu.edu](mailto:oel@nmsu.edu) with any questions.

# CAREER FAIR PREPARATION WORKSHOP

September 4, 2024

4:30pm-5:30pm

Science Hall, Room 108



Call 575-646-1631 or email  
[oel@nmsu.edu](mailto:oel@nmsu.edu) for more  
information!



Scan QR Code to Register!



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# Career Fair Strategies Workshop

Tuesday, September 10th  
5:30pm-6:30pm

Business Complex, 106

Scan code to register!  
Contact the Office of Experiential Learning  
for more info: 575-646-1631 or [oel@nmsu.edu](mailto:oel@nmsu.edu)



**NM**  
**STATE**

## Data Tools Workshop: Introduction to Navigate360

On Friday, Sept. 13, the Division of Student Success will present a workshop and open lab for faculty and staff to learn more about Navigate360. A powerful enterprise data tool, Navigate360 can help faculty understand trends regarding student academic progress and success. It can also help faculty and staff spend less time on administrative tasks and more time interacting with students. This workshop will provide an overview of the platform and introduce some of the most commonly used features.

The workshop will take place from 1 to 3 p.m. in Hardman and Jacobs Undergraduate Learning Center, Room 206, and is available both in person and virtually. Learn more here. Navigate360 access is recommended but not necessary for this workshop. Request access at [ssar.nmsu.edu](http://ssar.nmsu.edu). For more information, please contact Melody Munson-McGee at [mmunsonm@nmsu.edu](mailto:mmunsonm@nmsu.edu).



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Can't make it to our on-campus mindfulness session? No worries! Join our **virtual Lunchtime Mindfulness Meditation** every Thursday from 12:00 to 12:30 PM on Zoom, starting September 5. Whether you're new to mindfulness or a seasoned practitioner, this session is open to everyone. It's the perfect midweek reset! **[Join us here.](#)** For more information or any questions, please reach out to Dr. Megan Finno-Velasquez at [mfv@nmsu.edu](mailto:mfv@nmsu.edu).

### **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](mailto: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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**Bachelor Student Social Work Association (BSSWA)** is an organization where we want to help you develop, practice, and improve your skills to help you become a professional, ethical, and well-rounded social worker. As the year progresses, the BSSWA will organize activities and events for all members to attend, whether for fundraising, community service, or a membership activity. These events will be posted in the announcements and collaborations.

How to join:

To be applicable to join the organization you need to be enrolled in the New Mexico State University School of Social Work as an undergraduate Social Work major or shall hold an enrollment as a Pre-Social Work major.

Becoming a member takes a few easy steps that include:

- Attend at least one meeting
- Pay initial membership dues



**Upcoming event:** Our first meeting!!!  
 When: September 12th , 2024  
 Where: HSS building room 218  
 Time: 6:30 PM

**Group me:** We also have a group me in which we send updates and reminders about upcoming events/ meetings. If you would like to join in to see a little bit more of what is going on. [Here is the link!!!](#)

For further information on how to join or who we are you can contact our officers:

- President Celia Acosta (575) 621-9936 [cacosta0@nmsu.edu](mailto:cacosta0@nmsu.edu)
- Vice President Lyzbeth Pina (915) 803-8342 [lyzbeth7@nmsu.edu](mailto:lyzbeth7@nmsu.edu)
- Secretary Maria Lazalde [maria32@nmsu.edu](mailto:maria32@nmsu.edu)
- Treasurer Andres Uribe [andresu2@nmsu.edu](mailto:andresu2@nmsu.edu)







# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

# RECOVERY IS FOR EVERYONE

EVERY PERSON, EVERY FAMILY, EVERY COMMUNITY



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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# 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



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

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



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## RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITIES

# OEL RESUME REVIEWS & MOCK INTERVIEW SERVICES

Students may request a resume review and or mock interview by scheduling an appointment through Handshake with the Office of Experiential Learning.



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[Click HERE to schedule appointment](#)



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# LEGISLATIVE INTERNSHIP SERIES

**TUESDAY, SEPT. 24**

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 16**

**1:00 PM – 2:30 PM**

**CCSU ROOM 302 (SENATE CHAMBERS)**

**5:30 PM – 7:00 PM**

**CCSU ROOM 247 (AUDITORIUM)**

**LEARN ABOUT THE APPLICATION PROCESS, INTERN  
DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES, LIVING EXPERIENCE, AND  
THE VALUE OF INTERNING FOR THE GOVERNMENT  
FROM  
GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES**

**\$25 NMSU Bookstore Gift Cards for 1st 25 Students!**

**Food and Drinks Provided**



Click below to register! For More Information  
Contact The Office of Experiential Learning at 646-  
1631 or email [coop@nmsu.edu](mailto:coop@nmsu.edu)



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## EVENTS TO KEEP IN MIND

### Practicum Cafe

In-Person coffee and virtual coffee for all students!

September 11, 2024

10AM

HSS Room 219

[Join us through ZOOM HERE](#)

### 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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## 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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