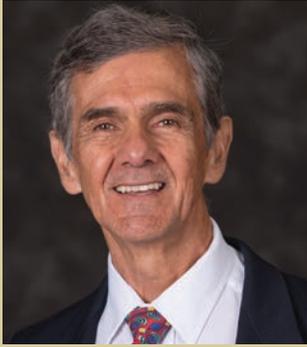




## Director's Corner



**Riaan van Zyl, Ph.D.**  
Professor and Director

The year 2020 reminds me of the words of a song by David Marks made famous by Four Jacks and a Jill:

"It's a strange, strange world we live in, Master Jack  
You taught me all I know and I'll never look back

It's a very strange world and I thank you, Master Jack"

In a strange world it is important to stay the course and see the world through empathetic eyes. The USF School of Social Work community did exactly that. We invite you to read about how we stayed the course, while being innovative to meet new challenges brought about by Covid-19. We remain dedicated to optimize the national awareness of social justice issues for the better good. We thank our alumni, friends, and community partners for their strong support to engage, educate, and empower!

Thank you,  
Riaan



## School of Social Work Updates

- **Education Abroad:** Due to the COVID-19 travel restriction the Education Abroad program for 2020 was temporarily suspended.
- **Enrollment:** We are honored to have over 372 BSW and MSW students in our school this year.
- **Research:** Social work faculty continue to be engaged in research to learn better ways of improving the lives of others. Research sponsors include: the National Institute of Mental Health, the United States Department of State and University Grants Commission (UGC) India, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, University of Southern California, Baylor Medical School, University of Texas-Austin, Florida State University Child Welfare Institute, Norwegian Center for Violence & Trauma, St. Petersburg Catholic Charities, Florida Department of Children and Families, Florida Guardian Ad Litem Program, Heartlands for Children and CBCS HIV RIG Special Funding
- **Online Program:** The Online Advanced Standing (AS) MSW enrolled a new cohort of 36 part-time and full-time students in the Summer 2020 semester. **Dawn Brown, MSW** is the Chair of the Online MSW Program, and she is supported by the Online Field Coordinators **Melissa Thompson, MSW, LCSW**, and **Dr. Lisa Macri**.
- **ASWB Pass Rate:** Our master's level graduate students who take the Clinical Association of Social Work Boards examinations for social work license consistently have a higher total pass rate than the national average. Our students consistently have the highest 1st-time pass rate for the professional Licensure examination in the State.
- **Global Pathway designation.** We continue to integrate Study Abroad options into our curricula towards this designation to enable students to make progress toward a Global Citizen Award. **Dr. Chris Simmons, Ms. Lori Rogovin**, and **Dr. Iraida Carrion** were accepted as a Global Faculty Fellows for the Fall 2019 semester. As part of the Fellowship, they will work with the Global Citizens Project (GCP) professional development specialists on enhancing their selected courses and prepare a new GCP course certification proposal.

The BSW Program is certified as a **USF Global Pathway program** and is featured on the GCP website: [www.usf.edu/gcp/faculty-staff/global-pathways.aspx](http://www.usf.edu/gcp/faculty-staff/global-pathways.aspx). We continue to integrate Study Abroad options and course enhancements into our curricula to enable students to make progress toward a Global Citizen Award. Three additional courses were converted this year to GCP courses – Living Latinx: Social Work Practice, Happiness and Well-Being, and Social Welfare Policy and Program. The Twoub Mantal Film Screening (February 21) has been approved as a Global Citizens event. Drs. Carrion and Joshi developed four syllabi (2 graduate courses and 2 undergraduate courses) and co-led trips that enabled over 30 students to travel to Spain and India.

**Interdisciplinary Research and Practice Lab for Mental Health Promotion and Violence Prevention among Girls and Women in Global Settings**

A newly created lab harnesses the strengths and skills of interprofessional teams at USF School of Social Work and the USF College of Public Health Harrell Center to study international and domestic issues related to gender-based violence and women’s health. The lab emerged from the long-time involvement of **Dr. Guitele Rahill** and **Dr. Manisha Joshi** (School of Social Work) in Haiti’s Cité Soleil and from outcomes of the GCE Round 20 Healthy Minds for Adolescent Mothers, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. A recently discovered covert form of non-partner sexual violence against girls and women in Haiti’s Cité Soleil slum that results in unplanned teen pregnancies, depression, anxiety, and trauma for teens experiencing such pregnancies, served as the current impetus for the lab.

The inaugural meeting of the Lab was held on November 13, 2019. So far, in collaboration with OREZON Cité Soleil, the group has successfully obtained permission from the World Health Organization to translate the ACE-IQ (Adverse Childhood Events Questionnaire) for administration in Cité Soleil, Haiti. The first back-translations of the Haitian Kreyòl version was achieved in December 2019, with the help of **USF BSW** students **Lisa Renard** and **Taina Laloi**. Concomitantly, several USF students have expressed interest and have begun working on manuscript development related to gender-based violence and trauma in global settings. These include: **MSW students Lucy Grippo**

and **Amanda Grey** who are working on Syndemic Factors associated with HIV risk for transgendered persons in Haiti.

Recognizing that access to mental health and violence prevention against girls and women are also a domestic issue, especially for immigrants, the lab is collaborating with local Imam Tarik who is working with **MSW student Mrs. Zainab Badri** to coordinate a community town hall meeting in their Tarpon Spring Mosque on Prevention of Family Violence in the Muslim Family (March 2020).

The Lab is currently written in a grant that was submitted by the USF Harrell Center, which contains an inter-professional education component. The latter component would provide opportunities for students in social work and public health to take part in at least two of several inter-professional education and training sessions as part of their professional development. The ultimate objective would be to cultivate “ collaborative practice for providing patient-centered and family-centered care”, ultimately maximizing positive outcomes for students’ respective clients.

- **Student Scholarship Fund:** The School of Social Work’s 4th Annual Scholarship Breakfast Fundraiser was well attended by alumni, friends of social work, community partners, faculty, staff, and students and further grew the endowed scholarship fund to reach over \$34,000.
- **School Rankings:** In October 2019 the USF Tampa Social Work program was ranked #19 out of 361 schools nationwide and #1 out of 10 colleges in the state of Florida by College Factual. . In 2019 the BSW program was cited in the list of the Best of the Best by Human Services Edu.



Our **Online Master of Social Work Program** has been ranked #4 in TheBestOnlineDegree.com’s most current ranking on Online Master of Social Work programs for 2020!

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

- Nelsen Mandela

## USF Doesn't really exist without US: SOSW Self- Assessing in Critical Time.

As we enter the roaring 20's, the rapidity of change is mind-boggling. The speed at which information and misinformation reach our ears and eyes makes it difficult to process. While there is a clamor in our very streets for change, at the same time there is a pull to return to the "comfortable" days of ignoring the policies and institutional paradigms that created the need for this change in the first place.

The USF School of Social Work is introspecting on how we engage in this important change process; and despite the many ideas and strategies, we all agree a USF without "US" leaves society in a very different place. How we respond to racism; how we respond to the unfathomable shootings of Black brothers and sisters, speaks strongly about US (as a school and as a profession); and how do we respond to systemic inequities that have persisted for centuries. Our corporate response as well as our individual responses matter. According to the National Association of Social Workers (2017), we are ethically bound to advocate for anti-racism and equality and act on injustices. In 2019, the School of Social Work hosted a Macro Symposium focused on understanding inequality and racism in our immediate community and beyond. Many of our students and community stakeholders have asked whether we are planning another Macro Symposium. We are working to determine what our steps should be. Currently, two faculty workgroups are collaborating to develop strategies to prioritize and address messages for awareness, action, and engagement of both our internal and our external stakeholders and there will be additional opportunities for conversations with students, faculty, alumni, and our various stakeholders.

We underscore that we need to be deliberate in our response as professional social workers, as we are daily called to be empathic and competent while providing services in a system that is often ambiguous, ethically flexible, and selectively empathic. We ask that you join US, as we strategize together about our encounters with self, community, and system. We ask that you hear US when we say, "Your story is an undeniable part of the School of Social Work story and legacy". It is our hope you will be proud of US as social workers and as persons deserving of dignity when this chapter is written. We want to be in a position to say that we did not stand idly by and miss this opportunity to seize this time to be "social" workers in the truest sense. We want what is said of US is that we are action-oriented, compassionate, evidence-based, trauma-informed, inclusive, accountable and; that we made the coming decade better for those of US it might have previously left behind, those of US who have been victims of quiet consternation and those of US who dared not speak for themselves for fear of retribution or worse yet, for fear of being dismissed. Stand with US to not only make USF what it can be but to enhance the capacity for all of US to benefit from turning what we have learned into action that really matters and makes a positive, lasting difference.

National Association of Social Workers. (2017). Code of ethics of the National Association of Social Workers. Washington, DC: NASW. <https://www.socialworkers.org/About/Ethics/Code-of-Ethics/Code-of-Ethics-English>

### Social Work Student Scholarship

**The Social Work Student Scholarship was developed in 2016 as part of the celebration of 40 years of social work education at USF. The scholarship will ensure that awards are made to USF social work students who will carry the social work profession forward to boldly engage in improving the well-being of individuals and society. Make a difference today for a social work student and your gift will keep giving as they make a difference in the lives of many others. Please visit <http://www.usf.edu/cbcs/social-work/about/donate.aspx> to make a donation. For additional information or other giving options, please contact our Development Officer Christina Wisz at [cwisz@usf.edu](mailto:cwisz@usf.edu) or 813-974-2327.**

The University of South Florida Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization soliciting tax-deductible private contributions for the benefit of the University of South Florida. The Foundation is registered to solicit charitable contributions with the appropriate governing authorities in all states requiring registration. The organization is located at 4202 E. Fowler Ave., ALC 100, Tampa, FL 33620. Financial and other information about the University of South Florida Foundation's purpose, programs and activities can be obtained by contacting Manager of Central Records, 4202 E. Fowler Ave., ALC 100, Tampa, FL 33620 or by calling (813) 974-9110.

If you are a resident of any of the following states, please review the applicable, required disclosure statement.  
FLORIDA: SC No. 59-0879015 A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLLFREE, WITHIN THE STATE, 1-800-HELP-FLA OR VIA THE INTERNET AT WWW.800HELPFLA.COM.  
CONTRIBUTIONS ARE DEDUCTIBLE FOR FEDERAL INCOME TAX PURPOSES IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAW. REGISTRATION IN A STATE DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA FOUNDATION BY THE STATE.

## Incoming PhD Students

### Welcome and congratulations to our incoming Social Work doctoral students

#### Stephanie Rosado

obtained her Master of Social Work (MSW) degree from the University of Southern California (USC) Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work. As a former collegiate and professional athlete for the Puerto Rico Women's National Team as well as various leagues overseas, Stephanie is interested in the intersection of sports and social work (i.e. sport social work). During her MSW she became an executive committee member of the Alliance of Social Workers in Sport (ASWIS). This unique and immersing subspecialty views social work as a profession whose core values very much align with the needs of athletes --that athletes are a vulnerable population who are exposed to a myriad of physical, mental, emotional, behavioral, and systemic risk factors that contribute to wellbeing. She has also been named as a 2020 McKnight Doctoral Fellow.



Stephanie Rosado recently received the 2020 Bridging the Dream Scholarship for Graduate Students. This is a nationally competitive scholarship program from Sallie Mae. We are excited to welcome Stephanie to our doctoral program.

#### Amy Nourie

earned her MS in Family, Youth, and Community Sciences from the University of Florida. Her professional experiences include various positions in the child welfare field, most notably 8 years at the Guardian ad Litem Program. Amy's passion for social work started as a teenager when she noticed the many



injustices in the world and wanted to fix them. After this, Amy devoted her life to advocacy, equity, and the celebration of diversity. She is excited to be a part of USF because of the many research opportunities the University provides. As a Ph.D. student, Amy plans to focus her research on social justice and child welfare, with a specific interest in LGBTQ youth in foster care. When not in classes, Amy likes to spend time with her family, read, travel, and, most of all, play with her two adorable cats.

#### Shelton Gilyard

earned his BSW/MSW from the University of South Florida. His professional experiences include work as a funding Contract Manager for a local funder, an Autism Consultant at CARD-USF, and a Case Manager in USF Pediatrics. Shelton's passion for social work started during undergraduate studies when he volunteered in the rehabilitation hospital which had provided comprehensive care and support for his grandmother. Shelton is excited to again be part of USF because this University provides an opportunity for all, embraces diverse skill sets and interests, and is built on a firm research reputation. As a Ph.D. student, Shelton plans to focus his research in the area of community health outcomes and access to behavioral health services among special populations, including athletes. When not in classes, Shelton enjoys working out and coaching youth athletics.



## Current PhD Students

Congratulations to our doctoral student **Caroline Muster** who published a first author article in the *Affilia, Journal of Women and Social Work*.

Muster, C. L. (2020). The silenced voices



of hidden survivors: addressing intimate partner violence among women with disabilities through a combined theoretical approach. *Affilia, Journal of Women and Social Work*, 1-11 <https://doi.org/10.1177/0886109920944555>

## MSW and BSW Students

### 2020 BLS Scholarship Winner!

Better Living for Seniors Hillsborough is pleased to announce the 2020 scholarship recipient, **Ms. Allison Clark**, a full-time MSW student, was awarded the 2020 Better Living for Seniors Scholarship. When asked about her career and educational goals for the future, Allison states, "It is my hope as a soon-to-be social worker that I can help end the challenges that seniors face in the pursuit of a living a full, happy life. I intend on working with my local government as a social worker in the Aging Services Department because of my experience with working with this population. Pursuing my social work degree and winning this scholarship means I can take care of someone's grandparent for them in ways they may not be able to."



**Grace Jones**, our Full-time MSW Student Class Representative for the 2021 cohort is also the Project Coordinator for the Graduate Research and Evaluation Graduate Research Assistant Team in the Public Health Interdisciplinary Research & Education Department within the College of Public Health. They recently completed a project for the Florida Department of Health concerning the Florida Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System. In addition,



they submitted an Evaluation Report to the Department of Health (DOH) and presented the findings to key stakeholders and community partners.

**Melanie A. Rosler** was awarded the Council on Social Work Education's (CSWE) Masters Minority Fellowship for the 2020-2021 cycle, funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The Minority Fellowship Program (MFP) is designed to enhance the training of full-time, masters-level, direct practice-focused social work students interested in continuing their mental health and/or substance use disorder service delivery to racial/ethnic minorities. The purpose of the MFP is to reduce health disparities and improve behavioral healthcare outcomes for racially and ethnically diverse populations through an array of culturally competent trainings.



Melanie currently works in a psychology research laboratory where she is developing a culturally competent youth suicide prevention guide for Latinx families as part of a USF internal award. Her MSW placement is at Tampa General Hospital, Healthpark, an outpatient clinic serving low-income, predominately minority individuals. Melanie is also a facilitator for a healthy relationship program for people living with HIV. After graduation, she plans to continue her work with minorities by pursuing either a Master of Public Health or a Ph.D. with a focus on culturally competent program development to reduce health disparities.

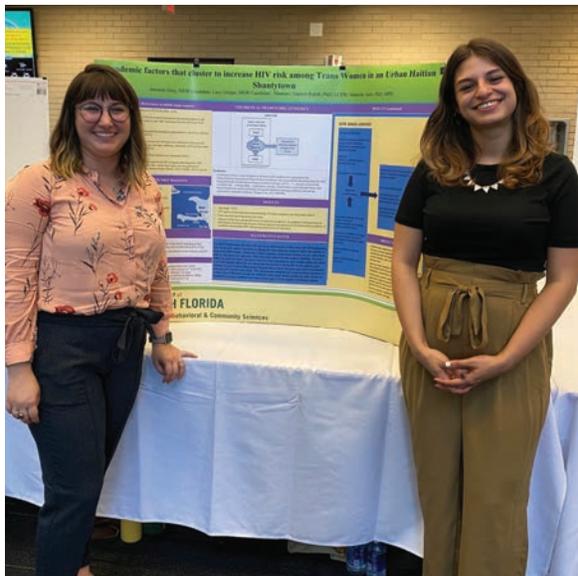


## BSW Policy Class Poster Session

BSW Policy Poster Sessions provides students an opportunity to showcase the culmination of their work on the analysis of social welfare policy. Congratulations to our BSW students who are helping to pave the way to a better tomorrow through advocating and addressing social policy needs.



Joel Green, BSW student



Lucy Grippo and Amanda Grey, MSW Candidates



## Legislative Education and Advocacy Day (LEAD)

■ The Florida Chapter of NASW sponsors Legislative Education and Advocacy Day (LEAD) each year to bring hundreds of social works students from around the state to Tallahassee, the state Capitol during the legislative session. LEAD is a two-day event where students, social work professionals, and other stakeholders meet to advocate for equitable, effective, and sustainable policies that are reflective of the NASW Code of Ethics. This year the Florida Legislative session began on January 14th, 2020, and Lori Rogovin, MSW, ACSW led a group of social work students to the capital January 27 – 28th advocating for priority bills including legislation focusing on mental health and behavioral health services, child welfare, and social justice. Students had the opportunity to meet their legislators and sit in on House and Senate Committee meetings.



Field



Joel Green

**Allison Clark** a second year MSW student spent her summer contract tracing COVID-19 transmission for the Florida Department of Health. Allison enjoyed the interdisciplinary experience and noted, "I worked alongside nurses and epidemiologists in both Washington and Holmes county to aid in the COVID-19 response. I called clients each day to check-in on them for emotional support and health education to keep them and their loved ones safe."



Alexis Trunzo



Maddie McCoy with her Field Instructor Andrea Campbell



Michele Julio



Maria Garcia



Field plays a central role in social work education and helps facilitate the professional development of social work students across our programs. Through our community partnerships, our students have the opportunity to intern in a variety of clinical settings working with diverse populations.

Field Education Program Faculty **Teri Simpson** and **Lori Rogovin** trained 86 new field instructors at the annual Field Instructor Training held in Tampa and provided 6 site-based trainings that included 48 social workers who are now prepared to be field instructors.

The field department, for the first time, arranged for the virtual presentation of the “Qualified Supervisors 12-hour Training” and the training for “Licensure Exam Prep” for our USF School of Social Work graduates. Both trainings received excellent reviews from the participants.

Our Field department continues to develop new partnerships with community agencies giving our students additional opportunities. This year we partnered with an additional 19 agencies throughout the state of Florida and the nation. These partnerships are essential to expanding how and what our students learn, and we are pleased to announce partnerships with the following agencies:

- 4Kids of South Florida
- Agency for Community Treatment Services (ACTS)
- AuSable Valley Community Mental Health
- Better Care Counseling
- Camelot Community Care
- Catholic Charities Diocese of Venice
- Child & Family Counseling
- Children’s Home Association of Illinois
- Community Connections for Life
- Delta Family Counseling, LLC
- Families Matter
- First Choice Counseling & Wellness Center

- Garden Grove Unified School District
- Guardian Ad Litem for Children 13th Circuit
- JAFCO
- Lapka Counseling & Consulting
- Lutheran Services Florida
- Milestone
- More Too Life

The total number of students participating in field placements for face-to-face programs was 353 students.

Last year our students contributed 133,520 hours in field internships. Based on the Independent Sector.Org’s estimated value of a volunteer hour as being \$25.43, the School of Social Work student’s value given to the community in this time period is \$3,395,413. During this reporting period, Online MSW students will invest 20,850 hours in the field across 5 states including Florida, California, South Carolina, Virginia, and Wisconsin. Based on the Independent Sector.Org’s estimated value of a volunteer hour in 2019 being worth \$25.43 our Online MSW students’ value given to the community is \$530,215.50.

## USF Bridge Clinic



The USF Bridge Clinic is a student-driven interdisciplinary free clinic for uninsured patients living in the University Community of Tampa! The clinic’s staff pride themselves in their mission of service, education, and collaboration for the people and community they serve. Services at the Bridge Clinic include medical, pharmacy, physical therapy, public health, and social work. MSW students and social work faculty provide medical social work, and mental health services to underserved clients at the BRIDGE Healthcare Clinic in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic.

## Interprofessional Education Day (IPE)

- USF Health sponsored the Annual USF Health Interprofessional Education Day (IPE) on November 13. The 2019 IPE Day focused on addressing the Opioid Crisis in the Tampa Bay Community through an interprofessional lens. The morning was open to the public and included Tampa Mayor Jane Castor as the keynote speaker and a panel discussion of experts across the health profession.
- The afternoon breakout session was an invite-only event and was a competition across disciplines. Students were assigned groups and each group was given a vignette regarding an individual with a substance use disorder, specifically an opioid addiction. They worked on interdisciplinary teams, collaboratively with students from across USF health, including nursing, medicine, pharmacy, public health, behavioral health, and physical therapy to explore and understand the areas in which collaborative interventions could be implemented to address a client's physical and behavioral health, as well as social service needs.
- The students developed a system map, created a 3D model, and presented a five-minute speech framing the problem and sharing solutions. **Dr. Vickie Lynn**, visiting instructor, helped facilitate the afternoon student activities. We want to thank our graduate students who participated: MSW students **Katie Barifeld-Craig**; **Madeline McCoy**; **Catherine Cadotte**; and **Jennifer Fuentes**, and **Dana Williams**, a doctoral student.
- We are proud of the skills and professionalism our students demonstrated and a special congratulations to **Dana Williams** whose group was one of the four finalists in a competition to create a 3-dimensional model showing how patients/clients might navigate the system of care and how interdisciplinary teams of professionals would strategies to assist the individual and the community.



*Dana Williams, MSW (left)*



*Madeline McCoy*



*Katie Barifeld-Craig at the flip chart*



*Catherine Cadotte (right)*

## Faculty

■ **Dr. Lisa Macri**, our Online Field Coordinator



■ **Dr. Lisa Macri** joined the faculty as an Instructor and Field Coordinator for the Online MSW Program. Dr. Macri received her MSW degree from Rutgers University, where she worked for the Center on Violence Against Women and Children. Her Ph.D. is from the University of Central Florida Public Affairs program, Social Work track. Her practice and research areas include intimate partner violence, violence against women and children, sexual violence, feminist social work practice, and social work education.

■ Congratulations to **Dr. Pam Alvarez**, who joined the USF School of Social Work in 2019 as an Instructor with a focus on macro practice and social welfare policy. Pam was promoted to Associate Director and also serves as an Instructor.



■ **Dr. Iraida V. Carrion** is collaborating with Dr. John Cagle and Todd Becker, MSW (Doctoral Student) at the School of Social Work, the University of Maryland in a pilot research study funded by the Hospice Foundation of America addressing barriers to pain management for Spanish speaking individuals receiving hospice care.



■ A newly created lab harnesses the strengths and skills of interprofessional teams at USF to study international and domestic issues related to gender-based violence and women's health. The lab emerged from the long-time involvement of **Dr. Guitele Rahill** and **Dr. Manisha Joshi** in Haiti's Cité Soleil and from outcomes of the Grand Challenges Explorations Round 20 Healthy Minds for Adolescent Mothers, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates



Foundation. A recently discovered covert form of non-partner sexual violence against girls and women in Haiti's Cité Soleil slum that results in unplanned teen pregnancies, depression, anxiety, and trauma for teens experiencing such pregnancies, served as the current impetus for the lab. The inaugural meeting of the Lab was held on November 13, 2019.

■ Congratulations to **Dr. Guitele Rahill**, Associate Professor, whose documentary, "Twoub Manta: Healing a Nation" has been awarded the "Best Documentary Award" for the 2020 Bergen County Film Festival.



■ Congratulations to Social Work Assistant Professor, **Jerome T. Galea, PhD, MSW**, who was featured in USF COPH Activist Lab's Public Health in a Minute Series and presented "PHIAM Depression and HIV Care Services for Transgender Women and Gay Men." The series gives leaders



in the community and academia one minute to advocate for a topic of great importance to them.

- Community Engaged Learning: **Dr. Chris Simmons** and **Melissa Thompson, LCSW**, along with clinical social workers **Tanya Johnson-Gilchrist, LCSW**, **Jennifer Roth, LCSW**, **Caroline Muster, LCSW**, **Dr. Brittany Peters**, **Sara Rhode, LCSW**, and **Clara Reynolds, LCSW**, and research faculty, **Dr. Jerome Galea** and **Dr. Maayan Lawental** worked with social work students to enhance the physical and mental wellbeing of patients at BRIDGE, an interdisciplinary student-run free healthcare clinic.

- We want to extend of appreciation to **Amy Weiss, Senior Academic Advisor**, who has worked with the school of social work for the past 15 years. Amy takes great pride in meeting students where they are and does so with enthusiasm. This year's challenges included meeting and supporting students virtually and Amy has done an amazing job with dignity and grace. We appreciate all she does for our students and for the field of social work.



Amy received her bachelor's degree in Music Therapy from the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Florida and her master's degree in Social Work from Wayne State University in Detroit, MI. She is a native Detroit but have resided in Florida for over 25 years and worked as a Clinical Social Worker in Michigan in the fields of mental health, substance use, and eating disorders, where she had a private practice. In Florida, prior to coming to USF she worked with the Jewish Family Services for 8 years. Amy has been the advisor for the School of Social Work at USF for the past 15 years.

## Adjunct Faculty

- This year Universities around the world are faced with the unprecedented challenge of quickly adapting in-person curriculum to a remote format while simultaneously trying to find ways

to keep themselves, and students engaged in their learning from remote locations. We know this was no small feat, and we were inspired by the dedication and innovation of our adjuncts demonstrated during this time. We truly recognize and appreciate how hard adjuncts work to ensure our students continued to receive the education and training they needed. Our adjuncts play a pivotal role in our students' well-being and long-term success and for that we are grateful.

We are proud of our adjunct faculty and the experience and skills they bring to our school. As special thanks to **Mark Ruffalo**, **Jenny Roth**, and **Bina Patel** for their commitment and hard work over the past year. We salute you!

- Congratulations to **Mark Ruffalo** who recently published with Ronald Pies, M.D., former editor-in-chief of Psychiatric Times. The article counters some common claims made by critics of psychiatric diagnosis, chief among them the claim that psychiatric diagnoses do not reflect or identify genuine disease.



Read more about the interesting arguments here: <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/freud-fluoxetine/202006/what-is-meant-psychiatric-diagnosis>

**Mark L. Ruffalo, DPsa, LCSW**, teaches Psychopathology and a self-developed course titled Introduction to Psychopharmacology in the MSW program. He also serves as an instructor in psychiatry at the University of Central Florida College of Medicine, where he teaches psychotherapy and the history of psychiatry to psychiatry residents. He is psychoanalytically trained and maintains a private office in Tampa. His main clinical interests are schizophrenia, personality disorder, and psychosomatic illness.

- During the Spring 2020 shift to online learning, Jennifer worked hard to ensure her students were well supported. **Jennifer Roth, LCSW** has been providing mental health treatment and care for individuals, families, and groups for the past 12 years. She is currently in private practice with a

specialty in trauma and is certified in EMDR. Jennifer also has the privilege of teaching the BSW integrative seminar course at USF, her alma mater. When not working, Jennifer enjoys spending time with her husband and two children.



**Dr. Bina Patel** teaches in our Online program and has taught Field, Trauma & Intervention, and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy. She was instrumental in supporting our online graduates through the challenging Spring 2020 semester in Field. She also consistently has amazing student evaluations and we appreciate all she does for our students.



**Dr. Bina Patel**, a USF alumnus, returned joined the School of Social Work in 2017 as an adjunct instructor. She earned an undergraduate degree in psychology from the University of Florida and an MSW and Ph.D. in Social Work from the University of South Florida School of Social Work. Dr. Patel is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and a Qualified Supervisor for Social Workers with over 20 years of experience in health care and behavioral health.

## Staff



CBCS hosted a luncheon on January 21, 2020, to celebrate significant length of service milestones for faculty and staff. Dean Serovich made the presentations. Congratulations to our Field Program Specialist, **Yvonne Wallace**, for 35 years with the University of South Florida 13 years with the School of Social Work!

**Welcome to Michele Moore**, our new Online Academic Program Specialist!



**Michele Moore** is a veteran who served in the United States Air Force for ten years. She was lucky enough to be stationed in locations such as Hawaii, Virginia and Japan. Michele received her BA in Sociology from Saint Leo University and her MS in Human Services from Capella University. After separating from the military, Michele worked at the Guardian ad Litem Program for six and a half years as a Child Advocacy Manager supervising Guardian ad Litem and advocating for children in the dependency system. Michele is happy to have recently joined the Online MSW Program team.

Welcome to our new Academic Program Specialist, **Cadin Small**.



**Cadin Small** is a USF Alumni who obtained his Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. He has a passion for working with students and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion work that got cultivated in his undergraduate years when he worked for the Office of Multicultural Affairs on the Saint Petersburg Campus. Over the past three months, he has worked for the school of social work at the new Academic Program specialist for the Bachelor of Social Work Program.

## Alumni



■ **Ashley Hugh Stewart-Myles** (she/her/hers) is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in Florida and Georgia and is a 2014 USF School of Social Work graduate. Ashley is currently working towards her Ph.D. in Psychology with a concentration in gender diversity studies and early interventions for mental health disparities amongst LGBTQIA+ youth.

In August 2019, she and her wife, Sophia Love, started their own company entitled LoveHugh, LLC (a play on "Love You") to support and empower. Ashley enjoys giving back to the community and is actively engaged in community service and participates in local community groups. Ashley blends her love for helping others into her professional world being a USF Certified Social Work Field Supervisor.



■ **Rosana Rivera, MSW** obtained her BSW and MSW from the University of South Florida. She has worked as a pediatric social worker at Tampa General Hospital (TGH) for the past 15 years. She works with an amazing multi-disciplinary team and has a vital role in a patient's hospitalization. Rosana specializes in dialysis, inpatient rehabilitation, trauma, burn, oncology, hematology, renal transplant, intensive care, pulmonology, and general pediatrics. I feel the most important part of my job is working with Child Protection on patients hospitalized due to a possible inflicted injury or illness. I am the main point of contact with DCF and notify the medical team of any DCF determinations. I work tirelessly with DCF to make sure those most vulnerable children are ensured a safe discharge. She is a per diem with Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital as a community educator. Rosana is a Certified Passenger Safety Technician (CPST) and a volunteer for The Children's Cancer Center the last 10 years. She is also a notary and bilingual. She states, "Hospital social work is a very challenging job and no two days are alike. I hope to enjoy the challenge until retirement".

The School of social work has a strong tradition of providing social work education to the Tampa Bay area, the state and the nation. Our programs are fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education and we have nearly 4000 alums of the School, many who are practicing as leaders of state, regional, and local social service agencies, and non-profit organizations. The School has a strong commitment to promoting social and economic justice through all of its educational programs.

We love to share our alumni stories and highlight the achievements of our former students. Let us know what you have been up to since graduation – your story could help inspire the next generation of social work students. We cannot imagine our future without you. Please email Dr. Vickie Lynn [vlynn@usf.edu](mailto:vlynn@usf.edu) for more information.

## Awards and Appointments

- **Dawn Brown**, Instructor, and Chair of the Online MSW Program was the recipient of the National Association of Social Workers - Florida Chapter (NASW-FL) Social Work Educator of the Year Award at a virtual award ceremony. NASW-FL gives this award annually to a social work educator for outstanding contributions to social work education through teaching, leadership, and service inside the classroom and within the social work profession.
- **Dr. Cleora “Cleo” Smith Roberts** earned her MSW in 1964 and was recently awarded the Distinguished Career Award from Ohio State University Alumni Hall of Fame Recipients (Posthumous) for her exceptional professional achievements, initiatives, or leadership. She worked in various social work positions in California, Michigan, and Atlanta before moving to Tampa. After arriving in Tampa, she accepted a full-time faculty position at The University of South Florida (USF) School of Social Work. Smith Roberts was promoted to professor in 1999 and retired Professor Emerita in 2008.
- **Dr. Sondra Fogel**, Program Chair & Associate Professor, was approved to be a Center Research Fellow for the Center for Mental Health Research and Innovation in Treatment Engagement and Service (The MH-RITES Research Center). This appointment builds on the international work that she is doing with the University of Ghana.
- Congratulations to **Dr. Alison Salloum** who served as a guest editor with a colleague for the Journal of Family Strengths, Special Issue on The Impact of Hurricanes on Children and Families and Interconnected Systems. The articles in this special issue on the impact of hurricanes on children and families and interconnected systems build upon the lessons learned from past disasters and focuses on some of the advances and work being conducted with children and their families in light of catastrophic hurricanes in the past few years (Hurricanes Harvey 2017, Maria 2017, Irma 2017, Michael 2018 and Florence 2018).  
**Dr. Sondra Fogel** received the Spring 2019 CBCS Internal International Collaboration Award.
- **Dr. Manisha Joshi** and **Dr. Iraida Carrion** are recipients of the Academic Excellence Award presented at the Annual USF Student Success Luncheon. They were recognized for their contribution to student success with their united commitment and global learning outcomes to develop the School of Social Works first Education Abroad Program to India in its 43-year history. These two faculty members have contributed significantly to students’ academic success by creating global classrooms, modeling USFs global mission, and demonstrating academic excellence.
- Associate Professor **Dr. Guitele Rahill** joins the editorial board of the International Journal of Mental Health. To increase the focus of the journal on global mental health, refugees and displaced populations, and transdiagnostic/transcultural approaches to care, the International Journal of Mental Health invited Guitele Rahill to serve on its editorial board. The journal cited Rahill’s expertise especially in health policy and her focus on health disparities.
- Congratulations to **Chris Groeber** (PI) and the faculty and students in the USF School of Social Work who worked on the GAL grant and developed the first professional certification program in the U.S. for the Guardian Ad Litem Child Advocate Manager. Professor Groeber spoke at the virtual ceremony held Friday, June 24, certifying 384 Child Advocate Managers.
- Thanks to **Dr. Jerome Galea**, Assistant Professor in Social Work, who was interviewed for the College of Public Health’s “Advocation - Change it Up!” podcast in which he spoke about the importance of mental health strategies for gay men and transgender women.
- We are proud to announce **Dr. Jerome Galea** was invited by the Peruvian Ministry of Health to present mental health service and research projects in the era of COVID-19. The presentation attracted over 600 attendees and was in recognition of World Mental Health Day on October 9, 2020.
- Congratulations to **Dr. Nan Sook Park**, Associate Professor in Social Work, who was invited to serve as Co-Editor of the Journal of Intergenerational Relationships on the special issue on “Intergenerational Issues in a Changing Society of South Korea.”

## USF School of Social Work faculty publications to date. Faculty names are highlighted

### Publications

- Asgari, S., Luo, Y., Akbari, A., Belbin, G. M., Li, X., Harris, D. N., ... **Galea, J.T.**, & Contreras, C. (2020). A positively selected FBN1 missense variant reduces height in Peruvian individuals. *Nature*, 1-6.
- \*Blair-Andrews, Z., **Salloum, A.**, Evans, S. Phares, V. & Storch, E.A. (2020). Parental descriptions of childhood avoidance symptoms after trauma. *Traumatology Advance online publication*. <https://doi.org/10.1037/trm0000238>
- Brown, B., Marg, L., Zhang, Z., Kuzmanović, D., Dubé, K., & **Galea, J.** (2019). Factors associated with payments to research participants: A review of sociobehavioral studies at a Large Southern California Research University. *Journal of Empirical Research on Human Research Ethics*, 14(4), 408-415.
- Carrion, I.V.**, Estapé, T., Neelamegam, M., Roberts, J., Wiltshire, J. & Estapé, J. (2020). Older Latinos' Beliefs and Attitudes Impacting Cancer Treatment. *Journal of Cancer Studies and Therapeutics* 01(02:38-44.
- Estapé, T., **Carrion, I.V.**, Estapé, J. & Neelamegam, M. (2020). Exploring the Knowledge and Attitudes about Cancer of Older Adults in Barcelona, Spain. *Journal of Psychosocial Oncology Research and Practice*, 2(1): 1-16.
- Galea, J. T.**, Ramos, K., Coit, J., Friedman, L. R., Contreras, C., Dueñas, M., ... Gelaye, B. (2020). The use of wearable technology to objectively measure sleep quality and physical activity among pregnant women in urban Lima, Peru: A pilot feasibility study. *Maternal and Child Health Journal*. doi: 10.1101/2019.12.29.19016097
- Galea, J. T.**, Marhefka, S., Cyrus, E., Contreras, C., & Brown, B. (2020). Novel approach to scale integrated depression and HIV care. *The Lancet HIV*. doi: 10.1016/s2352-3018(20)30025-4.
- Jang, Y., Chiriboga, D. A., **Park, N. S.**, Yoon, H., Cho, Y. J., Hong, S., Nam, S., Rhee, M. K., Bernstein, K. S., & Kim, M. T. (2020). The role of self-rated mental health in seeking professional mental health services among older Korean immigrants. *Aging and Mental Health*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13607863.2020.1758908>
- Jang, Y., Choi, E., Rhee, M. K., **Park, N. S.**, Chiriboga, D. A., Kim, M. T. (2020). Determinants of self-rated cognitive health in older Korean Americans. *The Gerontologist*, 60(2), 250-258
- Jang, Y., Choi, E., Rhee, M. K., Yoon, H., **Park, N. S.**, & Chiriboga, D. A. (2020). Older Korean Americans' concern about Alzheimer's disease: The role of immigration-related factors and objective and subjective cognitive status. *Aging and Mental Health*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13607863.2020.1720596>
- Jang, Y., Choi, E., Yoon, H., **Park, N. S.**, Chiriboga, D. A., Kim, M. T. (2020). Self-rated physical, mental, oral, and cognitive health in older Korean immigrants: The role of health indicators and sociocultural factors. *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10903-020-01087-2>
- Jang, Y., **Park, N. S.**, Chiriboga, D. A., Rhee, M. K., Yoon, H., & Kim, M. T. (2020). Healthcare navigation sufficiency in older Korean immigrants. *Journal of Applied Gerontology*, 39(5), 457-462.
- Jang, Y., Rhee, M. K., Jeong, C. H., Choi, E. Y., Park, J., & **Park, N. S.** (2020). Oral health and dental care in older Korean immigrants in the United States: A qualitative study. *Dental Research and Oral Health*, 3(2), 83-95.
- Joshi, M., Rahill, G. J.**, & Rice, C. (2020). Psychometric properties of a Haitian Kreyòl version of the trauma symptom checklist. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, 260, 238-244. doi: 10.1016/j.jad.2019.09.004
- Kohler-Smith, A., Ramos, K., Contreras, C., Dueñas, M., Lecca, L., & **Galea, J. T.** (2020). Strengthening Maternal and Infant Health in an impoverished peri urban community in Lima, Peru: The SAMI Project. *Journal of Health and Social Sciences*, 5(1), 035-044.
- Lewinson, T.W. & **Carrion, I.V.**, (2020). "You don't know what you've got until they get in there": Older Residents' Perspectives of Budget Hotel as a Micro-Community of Affiliations. *Journal of Community Psychology*. DOI: 10.1002/jcop.22448.
- Lutes, L. D., Cummings, D. M., **Littlewood, K.**, Le, M. T., Kirian, K., Patil, S., . . . Hambidge, B. (2020). A Tailored Cognitive-Behavioural Intervention Produces Comparable Reductions in Regimen-

Related Distress in Adults With Type 2 Diabetes Regardless of Insulin Use: 12-Month Outcomes From the COMRADE Trial. *Canadian Journal of Diabetes*, 44(6), 530-536. doi:10.1016/j.jcjd.2020.05.016

- Miley, L. N., Heiss-Moses, E., Cochran, J. K., Heide, K. M., **Fogel, S. J.**, Smith, M. D., & Bejerregaard, B. J. (2020). An examination of the effects of mental disorders as mitigating factors on capital sentencing outcomes. *Behavioral Sciences & the Law*. doi:10.1002/bsl.2477
- Pandey, A., Mereddy, S., Combs, D., Shetty, S., Patel, S. I., Mashaq, S., Seixas, A., **Littlewood, K.**, Jean-Luis, G., & Parthasarathy, S. (2020). Socioeconomic Inequities in Adherence to Positive Airway Pressure Therapy in Population-Level Analysis. *Journal of Clinical Medicine*, 9(2), 442.
- Park, N. S.**, Chiriboga, D. A., & Chung, S. (2020). A typology of social networks and its relationship to psychological well-being in Korean adults. *The International Journal of Aging and Human Development*, 90(3), 211-233.
- Park, N. S.**, Jang, Y., Chiriboga, D. A., & Chung, S. (2020). Profiles of social engagement and their association with loneliness and self-rated health among older Korean immigrants. *Research on Aging*, 42(9-10), 300-311.
- Park, N. S.**, Jang, Y., Chiriboga, D. A., Chung, S. (2020). The role of social networks on depressive symptoms: A comparison of older Koreans in three geographic areas. *The International Journal of Aging and Human Development*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0091415020905553>
- Park, N. S.**, Jang, Y., Rhee, M. K., Yoon, H., & Chiriboga, D. A. (2020). Knowledge about Alzheimer's Disease (AD) and awareness of AD-related services in older Korean Americans: The role of social capital. *Journal of Applied Gerontology*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0733464820911533>
- Rahill, G. J.**, **Joshi, M.**, Zlotnick, C., Lamour, S., Beech, H., Sutton, A., . . . Paul, P. (2020). "Give Me Proof": A Covert but Coercive Form of Non-partner Sexual Violence Contributing to Teen Pregnancy in Haiti and Opportunities for Biopsychosocial Intervention. *Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment & Trauma*, 1-21. doi:10.1080/10926771.2020.1738616
- Ramirez, A.C., Grebe, S.C., McNeel, M.M., Limon, D. L., Schneider, S.C., Cepeda, S., Voigt, R. G., Berry,

L. N., Kochel, R. P., **Salloum, A.**, & Storch, E. A. (2020). Parent-led stepped-care cognitive behavior therapy for youth with autism and co-occurring anxiety: Study rationale and method. *Brazilian Journal of Psychiatry*, [Epub June 08, 2020] doi:10.1590/1516-4446-2020-0897

- Saavedra, J. E., & **Galea, J. T.** (2020). Access of Mental Health Services by the Adult Population in Metropolitan Lima, Peru: Characteristics, Perceptions and Need for Care. *Community Mental Health Journal*. doi:10.1007/s10597-020-00639-y
- Salloum, A.**, Johnco, C., Zepeda Burgos, R. M., Cepeda, S.L., Gutfreund, D., Novoa, J. C., Schneider, S.C., Lastra, A, Hurtado, A., Katz, C.L. & Storch, E. A., (2019). Parents' knowledge, attitudes, and experiences in child sexual abuse prevention in El Salvador. *Child Psychiatry & Human Development*, 51, pages343-354(2020)
- Salloum, A.**, & Powell, T. (2019). The Impact of Hurricanes on Children and Families and Interconnected Systems. *Journal of Family Strengths*, 19(1), 2.
- \*Smyth, K. M. & **Salloum, A.** & Herring, J. (2020). Interpersonal functioning, support, and change in early-onset bipolar disorder: A transcendental phenomenological study of emerging adults. *Journal of Mental Health*. Advance online publication. doi: 10.1080/09638237.2020.1713997
- \*Smyth, K. M. & **Salloum, A.** (2019). Secrecy, adaptation, and liminality in early-onset bipolar disorder: Reflections from a sample of emerging adults. *Social Work in Mental Health*, 17 (6), 723-742. doi: 10.1080/15332985.2019.1666079

## Book Chapters

- Quinn, R. D., Arnold, A., & **Littlewood, K. A.** (2020). The Transformative Nature of Community Engagement in the Arts. In A. Zimmerman (Ed.), *Preparing Students for Community-Engaged Scholarship in Higher Education* (pp. 379-402). Hershey, PA: IGI Global. doi:10.4018/978-1-7998-2208-0.ch019
- Fogel, S.**, & Boateng, D. (2020). Sexual Harassment. *Encyclopedia of Social Work*. <https://oxfordre.com/socialwork/view/10.1093/acrefore/9780199975839.001.0001/acrefore-9780199975839-e-358>.



## Grants and Contracts:

■ **Dr. Alison Salloum** is a PI on an R01 study awarded by the National Institute of Mental Health [1R01MH107522-01]. The purpose of the Stepped Care for Children after Trauma: Optimizing Treatment study is to examine how to optimize the efficiency (e.g., via matching children to appropriate treatment dosage at baseline, utilizing second-stage tailoring variables, and identifying mechanisms of change) and cost-effectiveness of Stepped Care TF-CBT. [2015-2021]

■ **Dr. Alison Salloum** is serving as a consultant on the study entitled, The Stepped Care Project-Examining Treatment Trajectories and Progress Among Child Victims of Violence and their Caregivers Through Trial of an Early Intervention Model in Municipalities. This study is occurring in Norway and is funded by The Norwegian Centre for Violence and Traumatic Stress Studies

■ **Dr. Salloum** is a Co-Investigator on a Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute study with Dr. Amber Gum. The study entitled, "Primary care patients with trauma history: Expanding a "Safety" research Partnership and network" is to expand and strengthen relationships with partners and with larger networks, prepare all partners and networks to engage and collaborate in comparative effectiveness research (CER), and strategies that create a safe, engaging environment for trauma survivors and establish infrastructure to sustain relationships and engagement, to prepare for planning CER.

■ **Chris Greober, Riaan Van Zyl, and Allison Salloum.** 2019-2020. Florida Statewide Guardian Ad Litem Program (Sept – June). Curriculum and Training Program for Guardian Ad Litem Program Certification.

The purpose of this training and curriculum development contract is to develop the curriculum and training materials, and certification tests necessary for the GAL Program to establish a training and certification program for individuals working for or on behalf of the GAL Program as Child Advocate Managers, Volunteer Recruiters, and Volunteer Trainers.

■ **Dr. Fogel** (PI) received a contract from the Department of Veterans Affairs (Contract 36C248-20-P-0785) for the development of VISN8 Behavioral Health Training FY20 (\$208,420).

■ Congratulations to **Dr. Alison Salloum** who is Project Co-Director of a highly competitive grant (only two awarded) funded by the Department of Education.

Training grant: Project iSED: Advancing Interdisciplinary Services for Students with Severe Emotional and Behavioral Disorders

"Project iSED," aims to prepare 33 high-quality scholars to serve as either Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBAs) or School Social Workers (SWs) who can collaboratively design and deliver evidence-based instruction and intensive individualized interventions and supports (PBIS) in natural environments, classroom, and schools for school-aged children with severe emotional and behavioral disorders (EBD; also categorized as emotional disturbance [ED] under IDEA). Using an interdisciplinary approach, the project will prepare the related services personnel to employ evidence-based practices and evaluation, foster family engagement and access to mental health counseling, and serve as home-school liaison. These related services personnel will be prepared to promote high expectations, use differentiated instruction, and improve the quality of behavior analytic and social work services for children with EBD who have high-intensity needs. This effort represents the collaboration between two programs, the Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Master's Program and the Master's in Social Work (MSW) Program within the College of Behavioral and Community Sciences at the University of South Florida (USF) and partnerships with three Florida school districts (Hillsborough, Pasco, and Manatee).

Funding: CFDA 84.325K, Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services

■ **Dr. Jerome Galea** is Co-PI on a study that was awarded by USF Pandemic Response Research Network with the title: Mental Distress Among COVID-19 Responders. Partnering with the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay and the Central Florida Behavioral Health Network to develop and pilot-test a chatbot, "TABATHA" (Tampa Bay Area Treatment & Health Advisor) capable of screening pandemic responders for levels of distress and service preferences using text messages and helping them navigate existing mental health services.

■ **Dr. Jerome Galea** is Co-PI on a study awarded by World Health Organization & Socios en Salud Sucursal Peru, WHO EQUIP: Ensuring Quality in Psychological Support. The goal of this project is to test a platform for training and supervision of mental health and psychosocial support helpers (particularly non-specialist providers) by applying the platform to helpers who will deliver WHO low-intensity psychological interventions and related non-WHO psychological interventions. The research will evaluate the feasibility, acceptability, perceived utility, reliability, and validity of the EQUIP platform and its materials in seven (7) countries: Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Peru, Uganda, Zambia and Ethiopia.

The award amount is \$200,000 for the period of August 2019 to December 2020.

■ Congratulations to CBCS faculty **Manisha Joshi**, **Guitele Rahill**, and **Linda M. Callejas** who are among six USF faculty awarded a Women's Health Collaborative (WHC) Grant from USF Health. They will work with Abraham A. Salinas-Miranda (Grant PI), Heather Agazzi and Cheryl Vamos to

investigate strategies to mitigate peritraumatic distress (PD) and prevent losses in educational achievement/attainment for African American (AA) teen mothers in the study, COVID-19, Peritraumatic Distress, Mental Health and Educational Attainment in a sample of African American Teen Mothers in Hillsborough County's Alternative Education Programs.

■ Congratulations to **Dr. Jerome Galea** and **Dr. Alison Salloum**, their project, Bending the Mental Distress Curve Among COVID-19 Responders: A Pilot Feasibility Study, has been selected for funding as part of COVID-19 Rapid Response Research Grant Award – Round Three. Other research team members consist of Dr. Patricia Emmanuel, Morsani College of Medicine, Dr. Lucy Guerra, Morsani College of Medicine, Dr. Kathleen Heide, College of Behavioral and Community Sciences, Dr. Giti Javidi, Muma College of Business, Sarasota-Manatee, Dr. Ming Ji, College of Nursing, Dr. Daniel Majchrzak, Information Technology Tampa, Dr. Stephanie Marhefka-Day, College of Public Health, Dr. Kathleen Moore, College of

# Endowed Scholarship

The first ever USF School of Social Work fund (Social Work Student Scholarship Fund #536009) has reached an endowment level!

Our goal is to reach the \$50,000 mark with a virtual celebration and fundraiser during Social Work Month in March 2021.

A very special thank you to all of our alumni, community partners, faculty, staff, students, and friends of the School who helped make this possible. Reaching this status will help our students excel in the classroom and in the community. The USF School of Social Work looks forward to elevate this fund and continue our mission to Engage, Educate, and Empower.



UNIVERSITY of  
**SOUTH FLORIDA**

College of Behavioral & Community Sciences  
School of Social Work

Behavioral and Community Sciences, Dr. Tempestt Neal, College of Engineering, Dr. Asa Oxner, Morsani College of Medicine, Dr. Ehsan Sheybani, Muma College of Business, Sarasota-Manatee, and Dr. Charurut Somboonwit, Morsani College of Medicine.

- **Dr. Nan Sook Park** is Co-Investigator on the project entitled “Toward Intergenerational Solidarity: Beyond Age Integration and Building New Ways of Life to a Sustainable Society” (PI: Soondool Chung, Ph.D.). The project was funded by the Department of Education and National Research Foundation of Korea in September 2020 (2020S1A5C2A03092919). The goal of this three-year grant is to establish and sustain intergenerational solidarity and networks by resolving intergenerational inequality and building an age-sensitive social environment in Korean society.

- **Dr. Nan Sook Park** is Site PI/Co-Investigator on the project entitled “Navigating Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias (ADRD) Care and Services in Linguistic Isolation” (Overall PI: Yuri Jang, Ph.D.).

Funded from the National Institute on Aging (3R01AG047106-06S1), the goal of this Administrative Supplement grant is to address ADRD care in linguistically isolated ethnic minority communities.

- **Dr. Nan Sook Park** is Site PI/Co-Investigator on the project entitled “Limited English Proficiency: Implications for Health and Health Care among Older Immigrants” (Overall PI: Yuri Jang, Ph.D.). The project was funded by the National Institute on Aging (R01AG047106) and the goal of the study is to investigate how social connectedness and neighborhood/community characteristics affect health and health care use in older immigrants in three states (TX, FL, and NY).

USF SCHOOL OF  
**SOCIAL WORK**  
*Engage, Educate, and Empower*

**Apply Now for the PhD in Social Work**

*Funding Support Available*

**Priority Deadline for Funding: December 15, 2020**  
**Final Deadline: February 15, 2021**

The **USF School of Social Work** will begin a full-time interdisciplinary program leading to a **PhD in Social Work**. The program provides a course of study to prepare graduates for academic and research careers and to provide leadership in research and education committed to excellence in social work practice.

- Minimum of 42 credit hours post MSW/Master’s degree
- Minimum of 30 credit hours from the MSW/Master’s degree can be applied
- No credit hours for field work/internship will be counted towards the PhD.

**Work with faculty leaders with expertise in these topics:**

1. **Societal Change and Innovation**
2. **Global Issues**
3. **Health**
4. **Behavioral Health**
5. **Leadership and Business**



For more info, please contact **Dr. Sondra J. Fogel: sfogel@usf.edu**  
[usf.edu/cbcs/social-work/programs](http://usf.edu/cbcs/social-work/programs) 813-974-8416



UNIVERSITY of  
**SOUTH FLORIDA**  
 College of Behavioral & Community Sciences  
 School of Social Work

## USF Social Work ACCESS Lab: A Global Mental Health Incubator

### *Advancing Community Collaborations toward Equitable Social Systems*

This year saw the launch of the USF ACCESS Lab dedicated to scaling up access to mental health services globally. If you're interested in getting involved, please reach out to any of our faculty.



### What we do:

The USF Social Work ACCESS Lab researches and implements evidence-based, low intensity psychological interventions to treat depression and anxiety in under-resourced settings where little to no mental health services exist. These interventions are called "low intensity" because they require less resources to implement and can be delivered by laypeople with no previous training in mental health. Guided by community-, human rights- and justice-based frameworks, the ACCESS lab helps the most vulnerable communities identify and sustainably implement efficacious interventions to treat common mental disorders.

### Who we are:

The USF Social Work Access Lab is comprised of a team of USF researchers and clinicians dedicated to promoting the equitable access of mental health services for all through research, training and education and service.

■ **Jerome T. Galea, PhD, MSW:** Dr. Galea is an Assistant Professor of Social Work, ACCESS lab director, and Global Mental Health scholar. He has



extensive experience in the implementation of low-intensity mental health interventions in Lima, Peru; Chiapas, Mexico; and Tampa, Florida.

■ **Christopher Simmons, PhD, LCSW:** Dr. Simmons is a Clinical Instructor of Social Work. Chair of the Master of Social Work Program, ACCESS Lab Director of Education and Training, & Faculty Director of Social Work at the BRIDGE Healthcare Clinic. Dr. Simmons is a Clinic Social Worker and Qualified Clinical Supervisor for SW and MH interns. His research focuses on and mental health and well-being of underserved populations, and cognitive development of mental health professionals in training.



■ **Melissa Thompson, LCSW:** Ms. Thompson is a Clinical Instructor of Social Work, Online MSW Field Coordinator, ACCESS Lab **Director of Clinical Supervision** & Faculty Director of Social Work at the BRIDGE Healthcare Clinic. Ms. Thompson is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker with clinical expertise in treating trauma, depression and anxiety in children and adults.



### ACCESS Lab students:

- Tracy Doering, MSW Student
- Dori Fuchs, MSW Student
- Tanner Baeder, MSW Student
- Cris Carlson, MSW Student
- Elizabeth Mcperebo, MSW Student
- Shelton Gilyard, PhD Student

**Current projects:**

- **TABATHA mental health chatbot:** This study proposal develops and pilot-tests a chatbot that is capable of screening COVID-19 pandemic responders for level of distress and service preferences using simple SMS text messages or similar, existing text messaging systems, and navigate them to existing mental health services matched to their distress level and service preferences.
- **BRIDGE Stressors:** This study is examining the impact of COVID-19 related distress among underserved populations in urban, Tampa Florida in preparation for a larger project aimed at implementing peer- and paraprofessional delivered mental health services.
- **WHO EQUIP:** Ensuring Quality in Psychological Support. This study is testing a platform for training and supervision of mental health and psychosocial support helpers by applying the platform to helpers who will deliver WHO low-intensity psychological interventions and related

non-WHO psychological interventions in Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Peru, Uganda, Zambia and Ethiopia.

- **Project PASEO:** Transitioning from the Pediatric to the Adult Care Setting. This study examines whether a community-based accompaniment intervention, including mental health support, delivered by community health workers is efficacious in bridging the transition for adolescents from pediatric to adult HIV care in Lima, Peru.

*“There is no health  
without  
mental health.”*



*Engage  
Educate  
Empower*

MSW

## ONLINE ADVANCED STANDING

**Master of Social Work**

If you earned a BSW from a CSWE accredited institution within the last five years, you may be an ideal candidate for USF's Online Advanced Standing MSW.

This accelerated program allows you to complete 35 credit hours in as few as 3 semesters full time or 5 semesters part time!

- No GRE required
- Fully online with live online sessions two evenings per week
- Full-time or part-time enrollment available
- Instruction provided by the same faculty who teach on campus
- Field placement available in your area of interest with one of 1,000+ field instructors

**Application Deadline:** Feb. 15, 2021, for a May 2021 Start

**Learn more at:**  
[onlineprograms.usf.edu/msw-newsletter](https://onlineprograms.usf.edu/msw-newsletter)



## Mission

The mission of the School of Social Work is to prepare graduates to achieve excellence as professionals and leaders in social work practice, research, and education. Our focus is to develop generalist social workers at the bachelor's level, clinical social workers at the master's level, and social work scholars at the doctoral level and to encourage students to embrace social work knowledge, ethics, skills, and values. Beginning in our own diverse region, and extending nationally and globally, we are committed to graduating students who reflect the School's commitment to promoting social and economic justice, human rights, human dignity, scientific inquiry, and sustainable human and community well-being for all.

## Thank you to the Professional Advisory Council

Cheryl T. Harrell EAP Counselor, JPMorgan Chase & Co. EAP  
 Nikki Daniels Associate Director, Champions for Children  
 Myrna Hogue Supervisor of SW Services, Hillsborough County Public Schools  
 Mary Turney Manger of Patient & Family Services, Moffitt Cancer Center  
 Emery Ivery Tampa Bay President, United Way Suncoast  
 L. Harrison Reeder Chief of SW Services, C.W. Bill Young VA Medical Center  
 Joe Rutherford CEO, Gracepoint  
 Dr. Chris Card Chief of Community-Based Care, Eckerd Connects  
 Tari Connell Managing Officer of Social Work, Pinellas County Schools  
 Bob Blackwood Chief of SW Services, James A. Haley VA Medical Center  
 Charlotte McHenry CEO, Senior Connection Center  
 Susan Bruno Director of SW Practice, Suncoast Hospice, Empath Health  
 Susan Wade-Infanzon Past Chair, NASW Tampa Bay Unit  
 Jack Smith Chair, NASW Tampa Bay Unit  
 David Chamberlin Supervisor of Student Services, Pasco County Schools  
 Clara Reynolds President & CEO, The Crisis Center of Tampa Bay

## Thank you to our staff

We would like to express our immense gratitude to our staff, **Cadin Small**, **Michele Moore**, and **Yvonne Wallace**, who at a time of need stepped forward to assist us with the tremendous changes we went through over the past year. As we transitioned to online course deliver and other virtual functions our staff meet the challenges head-on. We appreciate their patience and understanding and we want them to know their commitment makes a difference in the department, to our students, and to our faculty. We appreciate all their hard work they do to help us fulfill our educational mission.