

Winter 2019

CWTAP Quarterly

*Child Welfare Training and Advancement Program
Eastern Washington University*

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Director's Corner

Director's Corner:

Dear CWTAP Community,

Welcome to winter quarter! Eastern's CWTAP has a lot of exciting things happening this term. In late January, four students from our programs in Everett, Vancouver and Cheney will be joining select faculty attending the 34th Annual San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment. Students interested in attending were required to write an essay stating what they hoped to learn from the conference and how they would share the information with their peers and colleagues after the conference. There were many strong essays submitted making for a difficult selection process. Eastern is delighted to be able to offer this opportunity to our students.

On March 8, 9 and 10 CWTAP will be holding the 22nd Annual Student Institute. This year's conference is being hosted by UW Seattle at the Doubletree Hotel near Southcenter. Students from all three schools (EWU, UW Seattle and UW Tacoma) attend and present at the conference. It's a great opportunity for learning and networking.

Please see inside for more about our programs, alumni and students.

Sincerely,
Diana Patterson LeBlanc

Eastern Receives Higher Education Excellence in Diversity Award

We are delighted to share Eastern Washington University received the 2018 Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award for being the top college for diversity in the nation. Colleges and universities that exhibit a commitment to diversity and inclusion are eligible for this award. The INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine chose Eastern because diversity and inclusion are part of everyday life at our school. They highlighted EWU's Pride Center, the Multicultural Center and events like Dialogues on Diversity. For students of color and/or other marginalized groups, the Multicultural Center is known as a "home away from home". It is a place where students can study, converse and hold social events. Dialogues on Diversity are hosted by the president and often will incorporate panel presentations from EWU and the larger community. This is a huge honor and accomplishment for the university.

Congratulations EWU!

Alumni Spotlight

Sandra Jewell, MSW
By Kara Rozeboom



Sandra Jewell is a CWTAP alumni who graduated from the EWU MSW program in Everett in 2004. Sandra currently is the Area Administrator for the Lynnwood and Sky Valley DCYF offices and has been with Children's Administration now called DCYF for over 21 years. She brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to DCYF.

While growing up in her Texas neighborhood, Sandra observed her environment and watched local families get help from social workers. The social workers became her role models. When Sandra was in high school she knew she wanted to be a teacher or a social worker. After high school Sandra attended McMurry University in Abilene, Texas and switched half way through from a degree in teaching to a degree in Sociology and Criminal Justice. Sandra started to gain her social work experience by working at the Boys and Girls Club while she was in college. Then she worked for a few

years at a mental health and drug and alcohol treatment center for juveniles called Woods Psychiatric institute and at a juvenile detention center. Then she moved to Houston and worked as a CPS investigator for four years. She met her husband John who was in the Air Force and they moved overseas to Spangdahlem, Germany. Sandra was a Family Advocate completing CPS investigations for the military police regarding military based families (Air Force and Army). In 1992 they moved to Washington State and Sandra worked for a few years at Echo Glen, a juvenile rehabilitation center. In 1997 she began her career at Children's Administration in the Everett office as a CFWS Adolescent Supervisor. She has also worked as a CPS Supervisor, Program Manager, and for the past six years as an Area Administrator. She started her MSW in 2001 and received her MSW and certificate in Public Administration from Eastern Washington University's part-time program in Everett in 2004.

The advice that Sandra would offer individuals in the MSW CWTAP program and to current DCYF employees is if you see something that is not fair, advocate for equality. She recommends social workers use their voices and advocate for those in need.

Sandra is married to John Jewell and they have two dogs, one cat, two birds, and two salt water fish tanks. She enjoys exhibiting self-care by watching football, watching movies, and traveling.

Important Dates

January 7

First day of quarter

January 21

Martin Luther King Day (closed)

February 18

President's Day (closed)



March 8-10

Student Institute

March 22

Last day of Quarter

March 23 – March 31

Break

Student Spotlight

Jacqueline Armour-CWTAP Cheney Full-Time Program-Spokane by Gerry Charvat



Jackie Armour is in her final year of the EWU full-time CWTAP MSW program. Jackie is not originally from the area. She grew up in a military family and moved a lot during her childhood. She completed high school in San Antonio, Texas. Her mother was a nurse and her birth mother had attended school to be a social worker. Jackie knew for certain she had no interest in the medical field but did have a strong desire to help others. In her final year of high school, she applied to and was accepted by several universities including Gonzaga. Jackie had never been to the Pacific Northwest but immediately fell in love with Spokane's quirkiness when she visited Gonzaga. The uniqueness of Spokane was a contributing factor for her choosing Gonzaga.

During her undergraduate studies at GU, Jackie's professional interests changed and expanded several times but her passion to help others remained. When she graduated with her BA she stayed in Spokane and took a year off from school to work. She took a job at a Bingo hall and, believe it or not, she learned a tremendous amount about conflict resolution there! Jackie eventually got hired at a local Behavioral Rehabilitation Services home for adolescents. Her clients were made up of teens involved in the Dependency Court process. That is where she found her true calling to get her MSW and pursue public child welfare.

After being accepted into CWTAP and starting her practicum, Jackie's understanding of the complexity of public child welfare was greatly expanded. She had no idea the level of focus and energy the Department of Children Youth and Families (DCYF) put into parent engagement. Family reunification rates were actually higher in her unit than she had anticipated when researching CWTAP. She has been quite encouraged by this. She reports she was placed with a very strong CFWS worker as an AFI and her unit is very cohesive. She has had the unique experience of working with children requiring a high level of care due to medical issues and severe medical neglect and physical abuse. This has been eye opening to her and has truly informed her practice. She states that her field instructor and unit are doing a great job preparing her for a career in public child welfare.

Jackie is undecided on what her ideal program area within DCYF would be for a career. She does like working with the families ongoing but is excited to get some exposure to CPS programs both in Investigations and Family Assessment Response (FAR). She is also truly open to working in any office in the State of Washington. She has strong interest in working at the Vancouver office or the Spokane office. Her advice for anyone considering CWTAP and a career in public child welfare is to be absolutely ready to jump in with both feet, as it is fast paced, rigorous work.

Contact Information

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 <p>EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY start something big</p>	<p>Please submit suggestions to: dpatterson@ewu.edu</p> <p>Contributors to this issue: Nancy Fagan, Sherita Parratt, Kara Rozeboom, Gerry Charvat and Diana Patterson LeBlanc.</p>	

Helpful Links

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Alliance for Child Welfare Excellence: www.allianceforchildwelfare.org

National Association of Social Workers – Washington Chapter: <https://www.socialworkers.org>

Child Welfare League of America: www.cwla.org

Children's Defense Fund: www.childrensdefense.org

Child Welfare Information Gateway: www.childwelfare.gov

Casey Family Programs: www.casey.org

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families: www.acf.hhs.gov