

CWTAP Quarterly

*Child Welfare Training and Advancement Program
Eastern Washington University*

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Director's Letter

Dear CWTAP Community,

We hope this newsletter finds you well. We have much to report since our last newsletter. Eastern was pleased to host the 23rd Annual CWTAP Student Institute in Spokane February 28-March 1. Please see inside for highlights from this important student event. Additionally, you will find an article highlighting how Eastern's School of Social Work is coping with COVID-19. With a lot of innovation, flexibility and teamwork Eastern's students continue to move forward with their education during this pandemic. On that note, please see inside for information about our graduating students and join us in celebrating them. Our Everett part-time, Eastern Washington Hybrid part-time (aka Spokane part-time), and Cheney full-time programs all have students graduating in June. Since graduation is going to look a lot different than anyone expected we definitely want to celebrate our CWTAP graduates here.

Below please find our spring graduates seeking work--many are already attending Regional Core Training. They are eager to get to work!

As always, thank you for your support of our program and students.



2020 Graduates Seeking Employment

**If you would like to reach out to any of the students below, please contact Diana LeBlanc
(contact information located on last page).**

- Tara D.** would like to work in a CFWS unit in the King East DCYF office.
- Foluso O.** would like to work in a CFWS unit in the Lynnwood DCYF office.
- Jackie B.** would like to work in Spokane County.
- Kara C.** would like to work in Thurston, Pierce or Clark County.
- Roxana C.** would like to work in Benton County.
- Mariah C.** would like to work in Spokane County.
- Kennedy C.** would like to work in Spokane or as a backup in King County.
- Mara L.** would like to work in Snohomish County.
- Katie P.** would like to work in the Sunnyside office.
- Shannon S.** would like to work in Snohomish County.

2020 Graduates

Following are our 2020 Eastern Washington University, Master of Social Work, CWTPAP graduates by cohort. Please join us in acknowledging their hard work and dedication to get to this point--many while working full-time and balancing family life. All have worked hard to reach the finish line. If you know them, or have the privilege of hiring them, please be sure to give them the congratulations they deserve.

Everett Part-time Program

Shayna A.

Bukie E.

Justine C.

Tara D.

Christine D.

Angelia E.

Carlee J.

Deanna K.

Nicole L.

Emma L.

Anna N.

Foluso O.

Christina P.

Laurel T.

Ashley W.

Cheney Full-time Program

Jackie B.

Kara C.

Roxana C.

Mariah C.

Kennedy C.

Renee K.

Jevion K.

Mara L.

Katie P.

Briana R.

Shannon S.

Juliana Z.

Emily Z.

Spokane Part-time Program

Karin A.

Caitlin C.

Cindy D.

Crystal D.

Jessica H.

Linda I.

Alex J.

Sara K.

Chris M.

Anastasia M.

Jon N.

Andrea O.

Katie N.

Sara P.

Carissa S.

Michelle W.

Teresa C.

Student Institute

Eastern hosted CWTA's 23rd Annual Student Institute in Spokane at the new Centennial Hotel by Davenport the weekend of February 28-March 1. As you may know, students from all three participating universities (EWU, UW Seattle, and UW Tacoma) attend the Student Institute. The conference attendance exceeded over 200 participants. As a participant in CWTA, students are required to present at least one time at a Student Institute. Students contributed nearly 50 presentations this year, some by themselves and some in groups of up to 3 on a wide variety of child welfare topics.



Our Speed Interviewing session on Saturday was a resounding success with nearly 100 people participating in the interviews, including both non-employee students and interviewers. We are tremendously grateful for our guest interviewers that came in on Saturday to assist us with this event. This experience is very helpful to students preparing for interviews.

In addition to the student presentations, we were delighted to welcome three very special general session speakers. Jill Duerr Berrick, PhD, MSW author of "The Impossible Imperative" and professor in the School of Social Welfare at the University of California, Berkeley; Jody Becker, MSW, PhD, Deputy Secretary for the Department of Children, Youth, and Families; and last but certainly not least, we were very excited to welcome Spokane's Parent Advocacy Network (SPAN).



Remote Field Education

To support the health of its students, faculty, and greater community, Eastern Washington University has required all programs to move to a remote practicum model for Spring Quarter. With program sites across the state, EWU CWTAP had to respond thoughtfully and quickly to this mandate. In partnership with DCYF, CWTAP Field Instructors continue to find innovative ways to keep students connected to the important work of public child welfare.

For the traditional Cheney full time CWTAP students just entering practicum it is essential for them to stay connected to their cohort and DCYF units. Students are corresponding with their DCYF units regularly. Many students are able to participate in unit meetings remotely and have been given special research assignments during this pandemic. Several students have also had the opportunity to participate via phone in case planning meetings and FTDMs. Students are sending weekly updates to their AFI providing them with a recap of all integration assignments accomplished for the week and to seek additional learning opportunities.

During this time, it may be difficult for Agency Field Instructors to be readily available to their student so Field Instructors are stepping in to fill the gap. To supplement their remote practicum experience, students are engaging in twice weekly Zoom meetings and breakout rooms with their AFI or in small groups to discuss important DCYF policy and practice material. Most recently, the students did an in-depth analysis of Policy 4420 regarding health and safety visits and monthly visits with parents and caregivers. Students have also engaged in facilitated conversations on timely permanency and outcomes for legally free children. The students will be moving into lessons learned from WA State Fatality reviews utilizing the safety framework, gathering questions, and SDM to guide discussions.



Several experts from DCYF have volunteered to facilitate learning labs. Students are currently half way through a series with Lori Blake the CQI/QA Area Administrator for Region 1. She is sharing best practices identified in the CFSR and PIP for Region 1 and the State of WA. The students are exploring the 18 Federal measures in great depth. The next series will be on Indian Child Welfare with Tribal Liaison Linda Adkinson and ICW supervisor Geneva Prigan.

EWU CWTAP takes the safety of our students and DCYF partners seriously and we continue to seek ways to keep our students connected during this difficult time. If you have suggestions for innovative ways to engage our students please feel free to connect with our Director, Diana LeBlanc at dpatterson@ewu.edu.

Contact Information

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

Helpful Links

Children's Bureau COVID-19 Resources: www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/covid-19-resources

National Indian Child Welfare Association COVID-19 Resources: www.nicwa.org/coronavirus/

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