

CWTAP

Spring 2025

Quarterly

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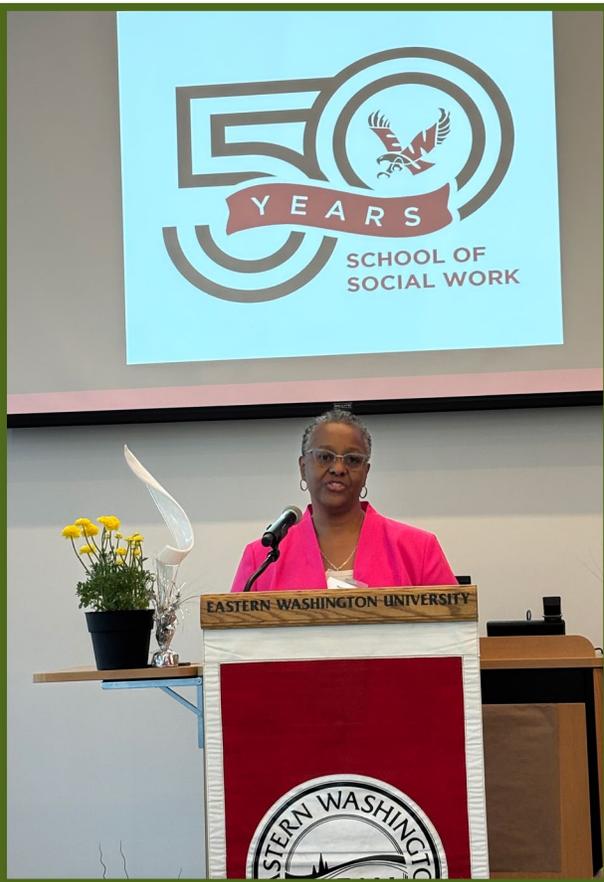
Director's Letter

Dear CWTAP Community,

We at EWU CWTAP are incredibly grateful for our long-standing partnership with DCYF. We are proud that there are over 163 EWU CWTAP graduates currently working within DCYF Child Welfare beyond their service payback. These post-service EWU CWTAP graduates are employed in 32 DCYF offices across the state and over 55% are now in leadership roles. Currently, there are 61 case carrying SSS3s, 9 lead SSS4s, 47 field supervisors, 25 program managers, administrators, and consultants, 14 area administrators, 3 deputy regional administrators, and both the Deputy Assistant Secretary and Assistant Secretary that received their MSW through the EWU CWTAP. We are eager to launch 18 more MSW CWTAP graduates and 3 BASW graduates. We have had unprecedented interest in the Spokane Part-Time MSW CWTAP and were able to accept 15 DCYF employees into the 2025-2028 cohort. We continue to be amazed by the local, regional, and statewide DCYF support to recruit and retain highly trained, well educated, and committed child welfare professionals for the critical work of public child welfare.

-Gerry Charvat, CWTAP Director

School of Social Work 50th Anniversary- Everett



By Kara Rozeboom

The School of Social Work at EWU has been celebrating 50 years of success in the Northwest, having produced over 3,000 graduates committed to serving the region's underprivileged populations. The Everett MSW program began in 1999 at Everett Community College. The program has been going strong for over 25 years. On April 26, 2025, EWU students, alumni, and staff were able to come together at the Everett University Center to connect and celebrate past achievements, along with looking to the future of social work.

Natalie Green, Assistant Secretary of the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) Child Welfare Division and a 2004 graduate from the EWU Everett MSW program and CWTAP, was invited to be the keynote speaker at the event.

Natalie Green has a passion for the safety of children and child welfare, so naturally, this led her to work on various projects and workgroups such as the Child Safety Framework and the organization and establishment of Washington State's Family Assessment Response (FAR) program. Natalie now leads the entire state DCYF child welfare division in her current role.

It was wonderful to have students, alumni, and staff come together to celebrate the impact that the School of Social Work has had on our regions!

Natalie Green (DCYF Assistant Secretary), keynote speaker



L to R: Amanda Reedy (Associate Dean CPP), Osman Ozturgut (Dean of CPP), Natalie Green (DCYF Assistant Secretary), Kara Rozeboom (CWTAP FFI), Latisha Williams (FFI)



L to R: Deb Svoboda (Director of MSW), Kathryn DePaolis (Chair of SSW), Lynn Lewis (Director of Everett Part-time MSW)

2025 Graduating Students

Congratulations!

We wish to congratulate our graduating cohorts: MSW Cheney Full-time 2023-2025, MSW Everett Part-time 2022-2025, and our BASW 2024-2025. We wish you all the best in your ventures in child welfare!

Also a big thank you to all the of Agency Field Instructors and Task Supervisors, you play an integral part in our students' success! We couldn't do this without you.



Graduates Seeking Employment

EWU CWTAP has 7 graduating students eagerly seeking employment. EWU CWTAP faculty have ensured their careers.wa.gov profiles and resumes are up to date. Below are the student names and their ideal work location. These students are searching state-wide for employment once they graduate. Contact Gerry Charvat, Danelle Stone, or Kristin Talbott for student contact information.

Sydney Gray- SSS1 - Region 1 or 4

Ruby Daley- SSS2 - Region 1

Jared Jackson- SSS2 - Region 1

Timothy Karn- SSS2 - Region 1

Leslie Rodriguez- SSS2 - Region 1 or 2

Acalia Storrer- SSS2 - Region 1

Makayla Pugmire- SSS2 - Region 1

Alumni Spotlight

Alex Job

*Family Preservation Services Program Manager
DCYF Headquarters*

By Danelle Stone

Alex Job is a CWTAP alumni who graduated from Eastern Washington University's (EWU) Spokane part-time MSW program in 2020. Prior to CWTAP, Alex obtained her undergraduate degree in Psychology from EWU in 2014 and worked for YFA Connections Crisis Residential Center (CRC), a short-term residential youth program, and as an Intensive Family Preservation Services (IFPS) therapist. She initially thought her education would guide her towards a career working in psychology services and addiction, but it was Alex's early work in short-term youth residential care and intensive in-home crisis intervention and counseling with families, that introduced her to child welfare and the evident system gaps she felt compelled to fill.

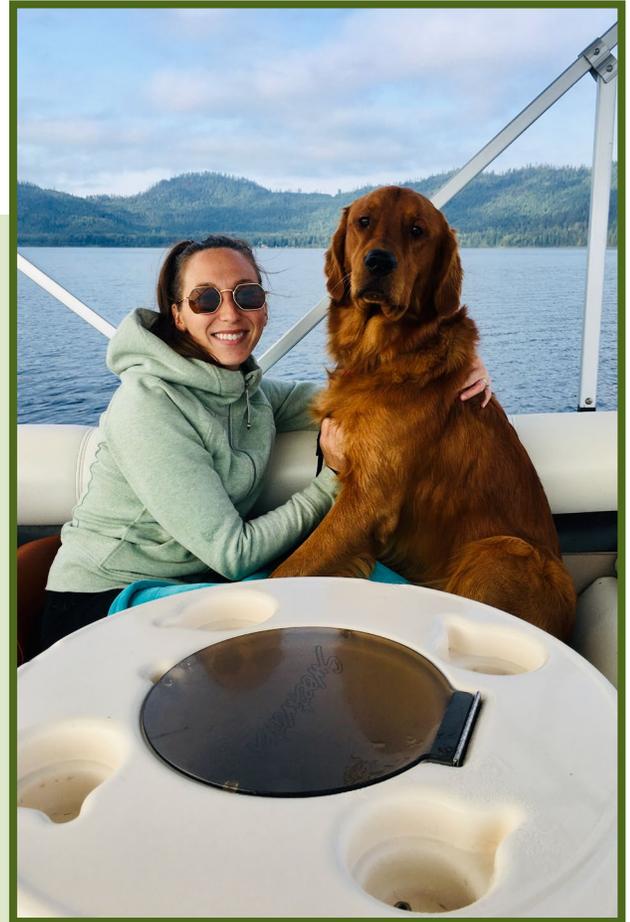
Driven to make a meaningful impact for youth and families in a different capacity, Alex started a position with DCYF as a Family Assessment Response (FAR) Social Service Specialist in June 2016. Alex worked in FAR for five years, completing her three-year part-time MSW program through CWTAP during that time, before being promoted to the Family First Prevention Program Consultant for Region 1 at the end of 2021. She found her way back to the field and FAR as a supervisor in the Spokane Central office in 2023 for a year and a half before settling into her current position with DCYF Headquarters as the Family Preservation Services Program Manager.

Alex found fulfillment in her work in FAR as a case-carrying social worker and supervisor where she was able to prioritize partnering with families and offering prevention-focused services. She believes every family deserves the chance to succeed, and her current role affords her the opportunity to engage in macro-level service advocacy for all Washington state families involved in the child welfare system.

Alex views CWTAP as both an educational advancement and professional development opportunity for current DCYF employees. Her advice for employees interested in CWTAP is to take advantage of new learning within the agency through a workplace practicum agreement. Her time as an employed CWTAP student introduced her to quality assurance and policy work within the agency, experiences that would have been limited in scope otherwise. Alex did not have a social work background prior to CWTAP and EWU's MSW program, so she was especially appreciative of the specialized learning she received from the School of Social Work faculty who grounded her in the core social work values and ethics that guide her work today. To be successful in the program, Alex encourages students to take care of themselves and prioritize their wellness.

Since graduating with her MSW in 2020, Alex has served as an Agency Field Instructor (AFI) for both BASW and MSW CWTAP students. She enjoys their educational interaction and seeing students make connections to competencies in practicum. A longstanding practice for Alex has been to learn at least one thing from each family she has worked with, intentionally walking away with a meaningful takeaway to improve her own practice. She highlights this same reciprocal process of teaching and learning from the students she supports in practicum as something she values.

Alex enjoys life as a proud dog mom and quality time with her grandmother, who she shamelessly admits regularly bests her in cribbage. Alex loves a good book club and looks forward to hiking, boating, and camping with her husband and their pups.



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Resources

[Alliance for Child Welfare Excellence](#)

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[Children's Defense Fund](#)

[Child Welfare Information Gateway](#)

[Casey Family Programs](#)

[U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families](#)

