

What is Social Work?

“The primary mission of the social work profession is to enhance human well-being and help meet the basic human needs of all people, with particular attention to the needs and empowerment of people who are vulnerable, oppressed, and living in poverty.”

“Professional social workers assist individuals, groups, or communities to restore or enhance their

capacity for social functioning, while creating societal conditions favorable to their goals. The practice of social work requires knowledge of human development and behavior, of social, economic, and cultural institutions, and the interaction of all these factors.”

-National Association of Social Workers



Some of our social work students are members of the Social Work Honor Society.



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CCC Alumnae Advocate of the Year

William Stauffer, LSW, MSW, CCS, CAC, has been acknowledged as Advocate of the Year by Pro.A. He is a graduate of Cedar Crest College, Summa Cum Laude with a degree in Social Work and the 2002 recipient of the Lecie G. Machell prize in Social Work.



Thanksgiving Basket Drive

Two women from New Bethany Ministries in Bethlehem decided to provide 400 needy families in the Lehigh Valley area with a complete Thanksgiving Day dinner. Students from Cedar Crest College’s Social Work Club jumped on board, and became excited to be involved with the project. Of those students, Tom Twardowski, an employee of Pyramid Quakertown, realized that this was a project that could go beyond his work with the Social Work Club.

Tom took the issue to Matt Hosband, Quakertown’s Director, who saw it as an opportunity to involve his clients in a program of outreach. After that, a collection bin was set up in the lobby of Pyramid Quakertown to allow people to donate. Then, on November 15, Tom and six male clients loaded up and dropped off the bins in Bethlehem in the rain, but with high spirits. This experience reinforced for everyone that there are things in life that can make you feel higher than any drug can. They all realized that an activity such as this can have a positive impact on many lives. Thanks to all these people, 400 families truly had something to be thankful for on Thanksgiving Day.

Social Work Professor Advisor to Honor Society

Suzanne Weaver, Professor of Social Work and Gerontology, is advisor to Phi Alpha Honor Society, a national honor society for social work students. To be eligible for membership, students must be juniors or seniors who have completed nine semester hours in social work courses with at least a 3.25 GPA in those courses, a 3.0 GPA overall, and have social work

as their declared major. Every year the social work department at CCC is proud to induct many of its students into this honor society.

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Words from a Social Work Senior...

I was blessed by the Pope at St. Patrick's Cathedral, shook hands with Robert Kennedy, and I met the infamous Mick Jagger of the Rolling Stones. However, on the 21st of January, at exactly 11:59 A.M. with millions of people, I witnessed a feeling of true inspiration, love, and hope in this

nation as I watched Barack Obama take the oath of office. In that given moment we were truly under God, one nation standing for liberty and justice for all. That day in history was truly a stellar moment for everyone to share. "God Bless America"

-Violet Blue



Maynard Cressman, director of the social work program, was chosen by the CCC 2008 senior class as speaker for the 2008 commencement



**Interested in joining the
Social Work Club?**

**Meetings are held
Mondays @ 6:30-7:00 pm
in Curtis 238!**

**Email:
swkswkclub@cedarcrest.
edu for more
information.**

CCC Alumnae in the News

Kathye Hammes, a social work alumnae is now a medical social worker at Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Hospital in Allentown, PA working with terminally ill patients. This year she and a friend from Good Shepherd were co-captains for their team for Lehigh Valley Heart

Walk in which they raised over \$2,100 along with other staff. For all these reasons Kathye Hammes was nominated for Women of Heart in the category of caregiver. This category honors women who have made an extraordinary contribution as a caregiver to family or friends.

Social Work Department Faculty Notes

Suzanne Weaver LSW, ACSW, Professor of Social Work & Gerontology was the speaker on March 13 at New Eastwood Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Easton, PA where her topic was "Dignity Issues for Institutionalized Older Adults. She also presented at Kirckland Village on March 18 with a lecture series for the YMCA of Bethlehem in their Great Decisions in Foreign Affairs Lecture Series. Her presentation was entitled "Human Rights and Social Justice." She also presented a lecture titled "Evaluating the Sexual & Behavioral Health of Residents with Dementia" at Phoebe Home in Allentown, PA on March 20.

Kathleen Boland PhD, LCSW, ACSW, Associate Professor of Social Work published in *Teaching Social Work Values and Ethics*, and she will present at NASW in June on Confidentiality and Technology.

Alumnae Updates

Recently a departmental survey was sent to our alumnae and our alums are working in a variety of settings. Some alumnae jobs include:

- Working at children and youth agencies
- Long term care
- Case Management
- Middle School counselor
- Research Associate
- Court Advocate
- Supervisor
- Adolescent Psychiatric Social Worker

- Medical Social Worker
- Mental Health Specialist
- Adoptions Social Worker
- Parenting Educator
- Assessment Worker

Graduate Schools Include:

- Marywood University
- Kutztown University
- University of Oklahoma
- Temple University
- Monmouth University
- University of Buffalo

Social Work Student's Trip to Costa Rica



volunteered at an abandoned and abused children's home called Hogar Blanca Flor. She chose to go to Costa Rica over other countries because she wanted to increase her fluency in the Spanish language, for she be-

Over winter break of this year, Allyson Walker went to Costa Rica through an organization called InterExchange. During her four week trip she volunteered at an organization called Alianza por tus Derechos, which works for children's rights. Walker also

believes that being bilingual is an important skill to have as a future social worker. In addition to all of Walker's volunteering, she had the chance to experience a Costa Rican Christmas, which involved the "Tico" version of bullfighting and a ten-day carni-

val in the nation's capital. She also enjoyed the country's beautiful wildlife when she spent four days at the beach with her host family. Allyson Walker had an amazing trip, and has recommended to others to take a trip to Costa Rica, especially for those who are learning or are fluent in Spanish.

Photos: Upper Left—This monkey is an example of local wildlife. Below—Ally is shown with her host



Social Work Students' Future Plans

Upon graduation at Cedar Crest College I hope to gain employment as a BSW in an agency. I will also be starting graduate school in the fall after a long summer break! I look forward to using all that I have learned at CCC in the "real world". -

Heather Borger Bollinger

After Graduation in May I plan on working full-time while continuing my volunteer work in the community. Eventually, I would like to continue my education and receive my MSW at Marywood University. -*Patti Leight*

When I graduate, I am going to continue working at Northampton County Children Youth Families. I was recruited into the position while I was interning there. Also, I have applied to Marywood University for my MSW. -*Tylynn Torres*

Other Plans for Seniors include graduate school at Marywood University, West Chester University, Columbia University, Bryn Mawr, Widener University, and Immaculata. Work Plans include Quakertown Nursing Center, Women's Resource Community Center, and the Children's Ark Youth Services.

Upcoming social work events:

- **March is National Social Work Month!**
- **March 1-7: Collecting School Supplies in TCC**
- **March 15-21: Collecting Book bags in TCC**

Cedar Crest College

Social Work Program

Social Sciences Department

Cedar Crest College
Curtis Hall
100 College Drive
Allentown, PA 18104

The Social Work Program at Cedar Crest College is dedicated to the provision of the highest quality educational preparation of students for entry into beginning social work practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities. The Social Work program seeks to provide students with a liberal arts perspective and a particular focus on the development of women. The Social Work Program is philosophically guided by a holistic approach to practice that includes the spiritual dimension of the human condition. The program is also committed to preparing professionals who will work to alleviate poverty, oppression, and discrimination through a dedicated advocacy for social economic justice.

[http://
www2.cedarcrest.edu/
academic/socsci/
social_work.shtm](http://www2.cedarcrest.edu/academic/socsci/social_work.shtm)

This newsletter is compiled by Social Sciences Department work-study employee Maira Cruz, Marketing and Communications major at Cedar Crest College.

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Social Work Located in Curtis Hall



Curtis Hall is named after Dr. William F. Curtis who was the president of the college in 1915 when the campus was moved to its current location. In the past it was only a dorm complete with a cafeteria. However, today Curtis Hall is the only building on campus that is a dorm and a classroom building. Curtis also houses the health and counseling services and academic services.

Contact Us!

If you are a student or an alumni with any information on the Social Work Program feel free to contact us at SWK.Alums@cedarcrest.edu and we may include it in future newsletters.

