

CWTAP Quarterly

*Child Welfare Training and Advancement Program
Eastern Washington University*

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Director's Letter

Dear CWTAP Community,

Spring quarter is here, and it is our busiest time of the year. Not only are we teaching, we are grant and budget writing, admitting students, and preparing students for graduation. For the graduating students not yet employed, we are preparing them for their job search. Please see inside for more information about our graduates and below for the graduates that will be seeking employment.

We are delighted to share this year's Student Institute was a resounding success. The UW Tacoma team did an excellent job of organizing and managing this event for our first Student Institute in 3 years. Over 125 students, staff, and faculty attended the conference in Olympia on March 3-5. The Speed Interviewing event was well attended, and we thank the Department staff, UW Tacoma alumni, and CWTAP faculty that helped with these Saturday interviews. Most students are nervous about attending Speed Interviewing given the nature of the event and associated "unknowns" but most, if not all leave very glad they participated and better prepared for their job search. While the non-employee students were in Speed Interviewing, the employee students attended a self-care session that included rock painting, foot massages, vision boarding, and some even made body scrubs to take home. The employee self-care session would not have been complete without the special mood lighting and musical ambiance. We are grateful to the UW Tacoma team for putting on an overall unforgettable event.

As always, if you have any suggestions for our newsletter or have ideas about content you would like to see, please let us know.

Sincerely,
Diana Patterson LeBlanc



CWTAP 2023 Graduates Seek Employment

Graduates not yet employed are below with their geographic and/or office location preferences noted. Students are required to search state-wide once they graduate. Please contact Kara Rozeboom, or Gerry Charvat for student contact information.

- Victoria L.—Prefers Everett DCYF, or other Snohomish County offices
- Caitlyn A.—Prefers DCYF North Spokane, DCYF Valley Spokane, DCYF Central Spokane
- Paige B.—Prefers DCYF North Spokane, DCYF Valley Spokane, DCYF Central Spokane
- Kelly D.—Prefers DCYF Valley Spokane, DCYF North Spokane, DCYF Central Spokane
- Zach G.—Prefers DCYF Valley Spokane, DCYF North Spokane, DCYF Central Spokane
- Madison K.—Prefers DCYF North Spokane, DCYF Valley Spokane, DCYF Central Spokane



Agency Field Instructor & Task Supervisor Appreciation

Eastern's CWTAP would like to wholeheartedly thank the following DCYF employees for their service in working with this year's graduates. We could not do this work without you!

David Koinange-Lynnwood
Kirsten Ward-Tacoma
Delton Hauck-Headquarters
Maloua Beck-Everett
Alexandra Wagner-Smokey Point
Angie Etter-Mt. Vernon
Michelle Hetzel-Everett
Shea Hopfauf-Kent
Christina Pastor-Smokey Point
Anna Nielsen-Smokey Point
Alishia Agee-Cooper-Lakewood
Katherine Graff-Mt. Vernon
Heidi Pless-Mt. Vernon

Kenzie Zehrung-Spokane Central
Nicole Langevin-Spokane Central
Courtney Pettitt-Spokane Central
Gracie Volyn-Spokane Central
Kristin Talbott-Spokane North
Beth Willey-Spokane North
Justyna Dokken-Spokane North
Kaylee Stumbo-Spokane North
Cori Duncan-Spokane North
Julie Hardison-Spokane Valley
Alison Sandeen-Spokane Valley
Marcey Monohan-Spokane Valley
Melissa Woodhouse-Spokane Valley

Graduating Students

In June, we have students graduating from our Cheney full-time and Everett part-time programs. Congratulations graduates—we are so proud of you!

Everett Part-time Graduates

Oma A.
Courtney B.
Victoria C.
Valkyrie C.
Lyndsay E.
Calista C.
Sarah F.
Kash G.

Victoria L.
Jess L.
Stacie N.
Ian P.
Jenny S.
Season S.
Joseph U.

Cheney Full-time Graduates

Paige B.
Kelly D.
Zach G.
Katie H.
Madison K.
Caitlyn K.
Kaylee L.



Photo:
Ryann
Charvat,
MSW,
Region 1
Safety
Program
Manager at
Eastern's
2022
commencement
in
Spokane.

Alumni Spotlight

Briana Rangel, MSW – CFWS – Yakima

By Gerry Charvat

Briana Rangel is a CWTAP alumni who graduated from EWU's Cheney Full-Time MSW program in 2020. She obtained a Bachelor of Science in Family Studies and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Central Washington University in 2018. Briana grew up in Yakima and from a very young age knew she wanted to be a social worker in her community. Briana comes from a family of social workers; both her aunt and uncle are practicing social workers and her father started his social work career in public child welfare in Yakima. For Briana, obtaining her MSW and participating in CWTAP went hand in hand. She knew that she wanted to work with children and families and it felt natural to follow in the footsteps of her father by pursuing a career in public child welfare. Briana completed her MSW practicum in the Spokane Central DCYF office and upon graduation began applying for jobs in Region 2. She was offered and accepted a position in the Yakima DCYF office as a Child Protection Services (CPS) investigator in May 2020. She learned a lot as an investigator and enjoyed the work, but knew she wanted to have more time to work with the families she served. She realized Child and Family Welfare Services (CFWS) would be a good fit and moved to CFWS in September of 2021. Her goal for the future is to help train and support social workers, possibly as a Social Services Specialist 4. Briana is obtaining her licensure and was selected for her region to present before DCYF administration on providing licensing opportunities for DCYF social workers. She is very passionate about her work with children and families and celebrates the success of the parents on her caseload. Seeing children safely reunified with their families is a very fulfilling part of the work for Briana. As for the benefits of CWTAP, Briana appreciated the real hands on experience in the field and the support from DCYF staff and EWU faculty. She truly believes that CWTAP prepared her for the work and could not have imagined doing the work without having gone through the program. Her advice for those considering CWTAP is to understand the importance of preparing for the challenges of the work and the challenges that clients face. It is vital to understand the time commitment of the practicum and learning objectives of the program as well. CWTAP is an asset for those desiring to pursue or further their career in public child welfare. When Briana is not working, she loves spending time with her husband and taking her dog Kevin to the lake.



Student Spotlight

Bryonna Henry – SSS3, Specialized Adoption Recruiter, Region 1

By Danelle Stone



Bryonna Henry is an EWU CWTAP student in her third and final year of the Spokane part-time MSW program. Bryonna obtained her Bachelor's degree in Human Development from Washington State University in 2012. While in her undergraduate program, Bryonna completed an internship at the YWCA where she was then hired upon graduation as a Domestic Violence Criminal Advocate. She worked for the YWCA for two years before being hired by DCYF in 2014 as an Indian Child Welfare (ICW) Child & Family Welfare Services (CFWS) Social Service Specialist. Bryonna has worked for DCYF a total of eight years in which she has held positions in ICW, Adoptions, and

now her current appointment as a Specialized Adoption Recruiter in Region 1.

Bryonna's passion for permanency fits perfectly within her present role at DCYF. As a Specialized Adoption Recruiter, a grant-funded program through Wendy's Wonderful Kids (WWK), Bryonna is able to work with children and youth in creative ways and capacities to ensure their goals are prioritized and permanency needs are met. She builds natural supports and connections for the children and youth that she serves, and finds great fulfillment when witnessing their success and growth as they establish their identity and find connections with "their person."

Bryonna applied for CWTAP because she had always intended to pursue an MSW, and the program provided her a unique opportunity to expand her education while relating it directly back to the work she finds so meaningful. Bryonna emphasized her learning experience thus far, indicating she has seen her direct practice with children and across teams changing and improving with the education to supplement her work experience. Bryonna has appreciated the supportive relationship with her Agency Field Instructor (AFI) in creating safe spaces for professional reflections and opportunities for networking. She also enjoys the connections with peers in her seminar cohort, highlighting their shared experience and importance of building that community.

Bryonna encourages CWTAP for anyone who is considering the program. It provides a specialized opportunity in child welfare to enhance your current practice, understand the "why" behind processes and thought patterns and being able to effectively articulate that for families and children, develop awareness of barriers, and find ways to eliminate them to reach better outcomes.

Outside of work and school, Bryonna and her family enjoy nature and staying active. She recently married, and she and her husband both enjoy CrossFit and rock climbing. They share two daughters, 16 and 14 years old, and one 8-year old son. Some of their family activities include movie nights and working out together.

<p>Eastern Washington University</p> <p>CWTAP</p> <p>102 Senior Hall</p> <p>Cheney, WA 99004</p> <p>Phone:</p> <p>(425) 405 - 1624</p> <p>www.ewu.edu/cwtap</p>	Everett	Cheney/Spokane
	<p>Diana Patterson LeBlanc <i>Director</i> dpatterson@ewu.edu (425) 405-1624</p> <p>Kara Rozeboom <i>Field Instructor</i> krozeboom07@ewu.edu (360) 651-6915</p> <p>Nancy Fagan (Interim) <i>Program Coordinator</i> nfagan@ewu.edu (425) 405-1625</p>	<p>Mason Hayes <i>Fiscal Analyst 3</i> mhayes@ewu.edu (509) 359-4265</p> <p>Gerry Charvat <i>Field Instructor</i> gcharvat@ewu.edu (509) 720-9894</p> <p>Danelle Stone <i>Field Instructor</i> dstone@ewu.edu (509) 844-2614</p>
	<p>Please submit suggestions to: dpatterson@ewu.edu</p>	<p>Contributors to this issue: Gerry Charvat, Danelle Stone, Diana Patterson LeBlanc, Nancy Fagan, and Mason Hayes.</p>

Helpful Links

[Children's Bureau COVID-19 Resource Page](#)

Includes information for frontline workers, children involved in child welfare, foster care providers, and other general workforce resources

[National Indian Child Welfare Association COVID-19 Resource Page](#)

Includes information for frontline workers, children, caregivers, and other general workforce resources

Alliance for Child Welfare Excellence: www.allianceforchildwelfare.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