

IN THE LOOP



SSW STUDENT NEWSLETTER

February 4, 2026

Important Update

Meet your Spring 2026 Undergraduate and Graduate Student Leaders (USL/GSL)!

Your USL/GSLs serve as advocates and communication facilitators for School of Social Work (SSW) students, fielding questions about all of aspects of the undergraduate and graduate experience, including advising, practicum, registration, orientation, scholarships, deadlines, program policies, and more. They are able to provide quick and accurate answers to your questions.

All BSW and MSW students have been invited to join a Teams Channel (SSW Undergrad Student Channel OR SSW MSW Student Channel). These channels will serve as the communication hub for your SSW needs.

If you don't see the Teams Channel, please reach out to sswengage@uta.edu.

Advising Updates

Current UTA students should now schedule advising appointments through MavInspire Appointment Scheduling. To learn more on how to schedule your advising appointment, visit the Office of Advising & Student Retention [website](#)!

To drop courses, students need to use the drop form in MyMav. Visit the Registrar's Office [website](#) for instructions. Last day to drop is 4/3/2026.

Be sure to check your financial responsibility for dropping/withdrawing on the Student Accounts [website](#).

Practicum Updates

Summer 2026 Practicum applications **are open now and will close on 3/6/26 @ 4pm CST** for those students who have met the prerequisite and GPA requirements. Please check eligibility requirements here prior to applying on the practicum [website](#).

Need help formatting your resume? Be sure to check out our [resume resources](#) for helpful tips, resume format examples, and more.

Opportunities & Events



Free Peer Support Groups – New 4-Week Series Starts February 2!

The UTA School of Social Work Virtual Peer Support Clinic is offering free, peer-led groups focused on Mindfulness & Resiliency. These virtual sessions provide a supportive, non-judgmental space to explore stress-management skills, grounding techniques, emotional awareness, and mindful coping.

Sessions meet once a week for 4 weeks and are offered at flexible times:

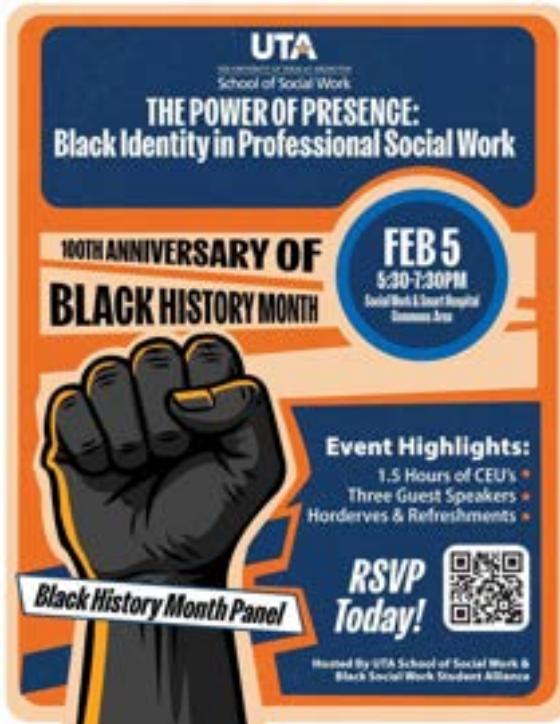
- **Mondays: 12 PM CST**
- **Tuesdays–Thursdays: 12 PM & 6 PM CST**

All students are welcome, and no previous experience is needed.

[Sign up here!](#)

Build community, strengthen coping skills, and support your well-being this semester!

The Power of Presence: Black Identity in Professional Social Work



UTA School of Social Work invites you to a reflective and forward-looking Black History Month panel, **The Power of Presence: Black Identity in Professional Social Work**, on **February 5 at 5:30 p.m.** in the SWSH Lobby and virtually. Black leaders will explore identity, navigating systems, resilience, and collective action in the profession. In recognition of the 100th anniversary of Black History Month, this conversation creates space for honest dialogue, shared learning, and community connection. Open to students, faculty, staff, and community partners.

Date: February 5, 2026

Time: 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

RSVP Here!

Spring 2026 Group Work Series: Navigating Boundary and Dual Relationships in the Era of AI: Individual and Group Practice Dilemmas

Loyola University Chicago
Spring 2026 WORKSHOPS
For more info on individual sessions, click the presenter name

Group Work CE Series

Feb 6 Navigating Boundary and Dual Relationships in the Era of AI: Individual and Group Practice Dilemmas
FREDERIC REAMER | 1-4 PM CT | ZOOM | 3 CEUs

Feb 13 Conflict and Other Challenging Issues in Groups
ANNE KERSEBAUM | 1-4 PM CT | ZOOM | 4 CEUs

Feb 20 Working with LGBTQIA+ Individuals: Practical & Effective Group Work Strategies
MAURICIO DIVINENTRE | 1-4 PM CT | ZOOM | 3 CEUs

Feb 27 Effective Intervention with Suicide Bereavement: Challenges, Strategies, and Practical Approaches
SERAH GROFFER-KAPLAN & CLAUDIO WIEGERTZ | 1-4 PM CT | ZOOM | 3 CEUs

Mar 13 Healing Connections Using the Power of the Arts
JULIA CLOUTIER, MICHAELA HARRISON & HOLLOWAY | 1-4 PM CT | ZOOM | 3 CEUs

Mar 20 Essentials of Clinical Group Work Practice: Effective Use of Self
JULIA CLOUTIER | 1-4 PM CT | ZOOM | 4 CEUs

Mar 27 The School-Age Child in Groups
KAREN MUSKAT | 1-4 PM CT | ZOOM | 3 CEUs

REGISTER HERE
Enroll in 3 or more sessions for a 20% discount
(Discounts available for students and Internship supervisors)

 Contact Caroline Gosselin at cgosselin@luc.edu for info and scholarship options.



Loyola University Chicago is offering a Group Work Continuing Education Series this spring. Every session is open to students at a significantly reduced rate with scholarships available.

The Series begins on **Friday, Feb. 6th** with Dr. Frederic Reamer, who will discuss the emergence of AI in behavioral health care and clinical group work; complex ethical challenges, including boundary and dual relationship issues; and state-of-the-art risk management protocols.

- **Friday, Feb. 6, 2026**
- **1PM-4PM Central (Chicago) Time | Zoom | 3 CEUs**
- **Student Fee: \$25**
 - ***20% discount if enrolled in 3 or more sessions**

Register here!

DFW Alliance in Mental & Behavioral Health Research Symposium: Development, Mood, Psychosis, and Addiction

DFW Alliance in Mental & Behavioral Health Research Symposium

Hosted by Metrocare's Altshuler Center for Education and Research (ACER), in Partnership with faculty from UT Southwestern, UT Dallas, UT Arlington, University of North Texas, and East Texas A&M University - Commerce.

Friday, April 10, 2026

8:30AM - 3:00PM

Scottish Rite Hospital for Children | T. Boone Pickens

Keynote Speaker



Dr. Joseph Gullone
President Emeritus,
APA's North Texas;
Assistant Professor of
Psychology at
Southwestern Medical
Center | [Read Bio](#)

Comprehensive Mental & Behavioral Health: Development, Mood, Psychosis and Addiction



Registration Fee: \$50
Early Bird Registration: \$40 (until Feb. 9, 2026)
Registration closes on
Mar. 30, 2026. Scan the QR code
or [click here](#) to register.

ACERresearch@metrocareservices.org | (214) 743-1262 | [www.metrocareservices.org](#)

Metrocare's ACER supports clinical research in real-world settings, driving treatment innovations that bring renewed hope to those in public mental health.

The symposium brings together researchers across the DFW metroplex to share emerging work, strengthen cross-institutional partnerships, and spark new research collaborations. Investigators are encouraged to present ongoing projects, pilot findings, or planned studies to receive feedback and expand collaboration networks within the region. Abstract proposals will be accepted from December 5, 2025 - March 2, 2026. Scan the QR Code to learn more.

The 2026 DFW Alliance in Mental & Behavioral Health Research Symposium: Development, Mood, Psychosis, and Addiction. This event is hosted by Metrocare's Altshuler Center for Education and Research (ACER) in partnership with faculty from UT Southwestern, UT Dallas, UT Arlington, University of North Texas, and East Texas A&M University - Commerce.

The Symposium brings together academic and community-based investigators to expose research informing mental and behavioral health care—and is designed to strengthen cross-institutional relationships to catalyze future research collaboration.

- Friday, April 10, 2026
- 8:30AM - 3:00PM
- Scottish Rite Hospital for Children
- T. Boone Pickens Training and Conference
- (2222 Welborn St., Dallas, TX 75219)

Early Bird Registration: \$40 (until Feb. 9, 2026)

To learn more and register, visit the [**Metrocare Services website**](#).

Graduate School Info Session

Thinking about Graduate School?

University Center (Guadalupe)

Wednesday, Feb. 11
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

SIGN UP HERE



Whether you're exploring options or preparing to apply, this session will equip you with the knowledge and confidence to take the next step toward your future.

Benefits:

- Advance your career and earning potential over time.
- Choose from more than 174 advanced degree programs.
- Benefit from fast track or facilitated admissions programs.



The Office of Admissions will be hosting a Graduate School Info Session. Whether you're exploring options or preparing to apply, this session will equip you with the knowledge and confidence to take the next step toward your future.

- Wednesday, Feb. 11th
- 12pm-1pm
- University Center (Guadalupe)

Sign up using this [link!](#)

9Ds Wellness Fest



Learn about the 9 dimensions of wellness!

- **Wednesday, Feb. 11th**
- **11AM - 1PM**
- **Maverick Activity Center -Front Gym**

There'll be a selfie station, t-shirts, activities, snacks, crafts, dance floor, giveaways, and campus resources!

Spring 2026 Group Work Series: Conflict and Other Challenging Issues in Groups



This workshop focuses on developing knowledge and skills to effectively address common challenges in group work,

including monopolizing, silence, and scapegoating. It combines didactic instruction with practice examples and provides

opportunities to apply concepts and strategies to one's own professional practice.

- **Friday, Feb. 13, 2026**
- **12PM - 4PM Central (Chicago) Time | Zoom | 4CEUs**
- **Student Fee: \$25**
 - ***20% discount if enrolled in 3 or more sessions**

Register here!

Licensure Info Session

SPRING 2026
CAREER DEVELOPMENT SERIES

LICENSURE INFO SESSION

Interested in pursuing your LBSW, LMSW, or LCSW? Join us for a Licensure Information Session led by Dr. Karen Magruder to learn the steps to licensure, get helpful resources, and have your questions answered.

Tuesday, 2/17/26
6:30PM – 7:30PM
Teams

JOIN HERE:



Interested in pursuing your LBSW, LMSW, or LCSW? Join us for a Licensure Information Session led by Dr. Karen Magruder to learn the steps to licensure, get helpful resources, and have your questions answered!

- **When: Tuesday, Feb. 17**
- **Time: 6:30PM-7:30PM**
- **Where: Teams**

You can join the session by using this Teams [link](#).

Webinar: Seeing Strengths in Action: Empowering Clients Through Ethical, Person-Centered Care



You're invited to join NASW for an inspiring Student Series webinar that celebrates the power of strengths-based care in social work practice. Together, we'll explore how centering clients' strengths, resilience, and lived expertise—grounded in the NASW Code of Ethics—can lead to more meaningful, collaborative, and effective outcomes. This session will highlight person-centered approaches, practical strategies for identifying strengths, intentional language use, and real-world practice examples that uplift client voice, promote self-determination, and foster lasting change. ALL are welcome!

Register Here!

Thursday, February 19, 2026 | 6:00 pm - 7:30pm ET, 5:00pm - 6:30pm CT, 3:00 - 4:30pm PT

Presenter: Emma MacDonald, LMSW-Clinical (pronouns: she/her)

Spring 2026 Group Work Series: Working with LGBTQIA+ Individuals: Practical & Effective Group Work Strategies



This interactive workshop focuses on facilitating effective groups for diverse LGBTQIA+ populations throughout the lifespan. It

identifies unique considerations for some of the different LGBTQIA+ communities within the context of traditional human

development theory, as well as group work theory and principles.

- **Friday, February 20, 2026**
- **1PM - 4PM Central (Chicago) Time | Zoom | 3CEUs**
- **Student Fee: \$25**
 - ***20% discount if enrolled in 3 or more sessions**

Register here!

SSW Connections Tutoring Lab

Social Work Tutoring Connections Lab

The Connections Tutoring Lab offers BSW and MSW students assistance with all aspects of the writing process for all types of writing assignments, especially those assigned in social work courses.



Our Services

- Content •
- Research •
- Organization •
- Style & Grammar •
- APA Guidelines •
- Class Assignment Rubric •
- Brainstorm Ideas •
- Ethical Research & Writing •
- Plagiarism •

[Book A Session](#)



The Connections Tutoring Lab offers BSW and MSW students assistance with all aspects of the writing process for writing assignments.

To learn more about the services and to book a session, visit our [website!](#)

Student Job Opportunity: Care Coordinator

Now Hiring: Care Coordinator (Student Position)

Handshake Job# F10874852

Life Connections Program

Center for Addiction and Recovery Studies (CARS)
School of Social Work

Make a Difference While Gaining Real-World Experience

Are you a **social work student** looking for meaningful, paid-experience supporting individuals impacted by crime? Join the **Life Connections Program**, a counseling and support program for victims of crime, and build practical skills alongside experienced social work professionals.

Position Details

- **Title:** Care Coordinator (Student Employee)
- **Pay:** \$11.00 per hour
- **Hours:** 10 hours per week
- **Schedule:** Flexible
- **Location:** Hybrid (approximately three days per week in office)
• May be fully remote depending on program needs

What You'll Do

- Conduct outreach to individuals seeking services through the Life Connections Program
- Complete initial intake and screening information
- Schedule appointments and send reminders to clients
- Provide warm, trauma-informed communication and support
- Assist with general administrative tasks and program coordination
- Collaborate with student peers, staff within a university-based research and service setting

Who Should Apply

- **BSW or MSW students strongly encouraged to apply**

- Interested in trauma-informed care, victim services, behavioral health, or addiction recovery
- Strong communication and organizational skills
- Comfortable with virtual platforms and confidential information
- Reliable, compassionate, and professional

Why This Position is a Great Fit for Social Work Students

- Hands-on experience with victims of crime
- Exposure to clinical, research, and community-based services
- Flexible schedule designed to support academic success
- Opportunity to work within a **School of Social Work** and build professional references
- Ideal for students interested in justice, justice, or clinical social work pathways

How to Apply

Apply through [Handshake](#) by searching for:

Care Coordinator – Life Connections Program – Job #10674650

Questions? Reach out through Handshake for more information.

The Center for Addiction and Recovery Studies is committed to equity, inclusion, and trauma-informed practice.

Are you a social work student looking for meaningful, paid experience supporting individuals impacted by crime? Join the Life Connections Program, a counseling and support program for victims of crime, and build practical skills alongside experienced social work professionals.

Apply for the Care Coordinator (Student Position)!

Handshake Job #10674650

Life Connections Program

Center for Addiction and Recovery Studies (CARS) School of Social Work

- Title: Care Coordinator (Student Employee)
- Pay: \$15 per hour
- Hours: 18 hours per week
- Schedule: Flexible
- Location: Hybrid (approximately one day per week in-office) May be fully remote depending on program needs

What You'll Do:

- Conduct outreach to individuals seeking services through the Life Connections Program
- Complete initial intake and screening information
- Schedule appointments and send reminders to clients
- Provide warm, trauma-informed communication and support
- Assist with general administrative tasks and program coordination
- Collaborate with social work staff within a university-based research and service setting

How to Apply:

Apply through Handshake by searching for: Care Coordinator – Life Connections Program - Job #10674650

Questions? Reach out through Handshake for more information.

Share Your Story on the School of Social Work Podcast



SHARE YOUR STORY

Share your story or bring attention to issues affecting society and discuss possible solutions from a student's perspective on our new School of Social Work Podcast - **BLAZE THE MIC**

INTEREST TOPICS INCLUDE

- Importance of Race & Ethnicity in the Classroom
- How has Your Perspective of Social Work Changed
- Field Education: Taking the Classroom to the Workplace
- Balancing Work, School and Life

INTERESTED?

Thomas Johns: Thomas.Johns@uta.edu

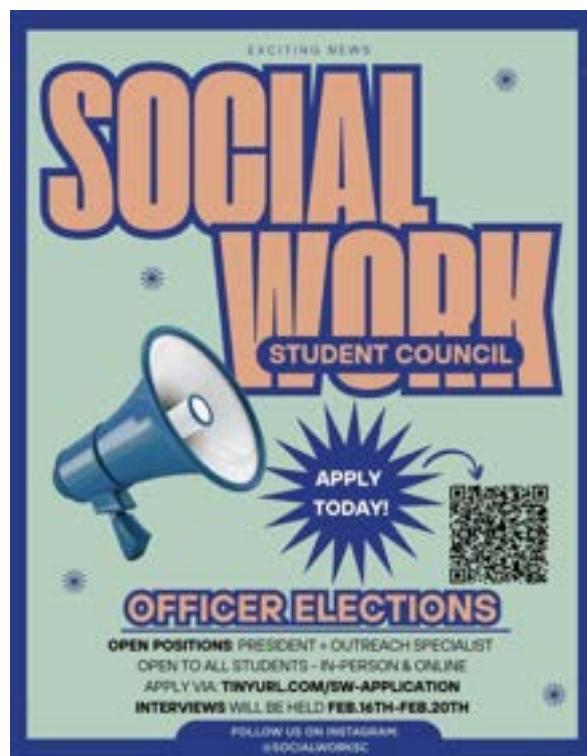
The need for mental health professionals is growing every day, and the School of Social Work at the University of Texas at Arlington is the premier school in Texas for developing students into the Social Work professionals of tomorrow.

Join us to share issues that are impacting our everyday lives from a student's perspective, and how we can change the future... today!

Email: Thomas.Johns@uta.edu

Student Organization Corner

Join the Social Work Student Council!



Social Work Student Council (SWSC) is currently accepting applications Executive Officer positions for

the upcoming academic year:

- **President:**

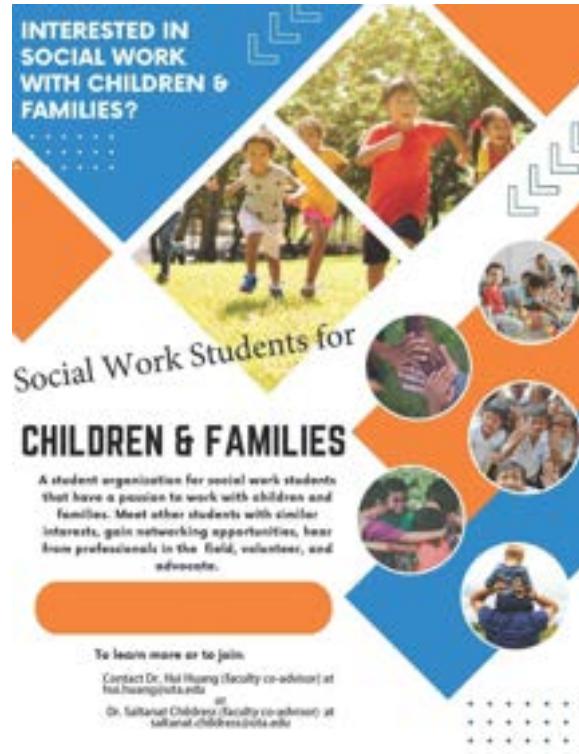
- Represent the Social Work Student Council to the School of Social Work and broader community.
- Facilitate and officiate Executive Board and General Body meetings.
- Coordinate Executive Board efforts to ensure organizational efficiency.
- Fulfill the mission of the SWSC.
- Monitor and oversee all affairs of the SWSC.
- Attend the President's Roundtable Meeting or designate another officer to attend.

- **Outreach Specialist:**

- Create promotional flyers for SWSC meetings and events.
- Obtain flyer approval through the Student Organizations Office in the University Center.
- Distribute flyers and share materials with the SWSC Advisor.

To learn more about the selection process and apply, visit the [**leadership application form**](#). Deadline to apply: Feb. 15th!

Join the Social Work Students for Children & Families!



The Social Work Students for Children & Families is a student organization for social work students that have a passion to work with children and families.

Meet other students with similar interests, gain networking opportunities, hear from professionals in the field, volunteer, and advocate!

To learn more or join, contact the faculty co-advisors:

- Dr. Hui Huang (hui.huang@uta.edu)
- Dr. Saltanat Childress (saltanat.childress@uta.edu)

Survey on Vaccine Attitudes and Beliefs in Social Work



Consider completing this short survey on vaccine attitudes and beliefs among social workers and social work students.

Eligibility:

- At least 18 years old, and
- A social work student in Texas, or
- A licensed social worker in Texas

The survey takes about 5-10 minutes. It is completely voluntary and anonymous!

To participate, use this [link](#)!

Questions?

Email rebecca.roten@mavs.uta.edu or christine.spadola@uta.edu

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK RESOURCES

ACADEMIC ADVISING

PRACTICUM PLACEMENT

CONNECTIONS LAB

LICENSURE

DEAN'S LETTER FOR LICENSURE

CARE FUND

CARE REFERRAL

UTA RESOURCES

- [UTA Academic Calendar](#)
- [Library Resources](#)
- [Office of International Education](#)
- [Apply for Graduation](#)
- [Free Windows Apps with Student ID](#)
- [Student Access & Resource \(SAR\) Center](#)

- [UTA Counseling & Psychology Services \(CAPS\)](#)
- [Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#)
- [Emergency Assistance Fund](#)
- [Health Services](#)
- [UTA/Tri-C Food Pantry Distribution](#)

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