

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICES AND THE 12 GRAND CHALLENGES (AASWSW.ORG)

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Mission of Grand Challenges

- To identify major social challenges for the nation
- To gather evidence based on rigorous science
- To design imaginative, effective, and culturally relevant solutions
- To promote policies and professional practices that lead to positive change
- To advance sustainable initiatives that achieve the positive impacts for all families and communities, tribal nations, and society as a whole (AASWSW, 2019)

Twelve Grand Challenges of Social Work

1. Ensure Healthy Development for All Youth
2. Close the Health Gap
3. Stop Family Violence
4. Advance Long and Productive Lives
5. Eradicate Social Isolation
6. End Homelessness
7. Create Social Responses to Changing Environment
8. Harness Technology for Social Good
9. Promote Smart Decarceration
10. Reduce Extreme Economic Inequality
11. Build Financial Capability for All
12. Achieve Equal Opportunity and Justice

(AASWSW.Org)

UNLV Transdisciplinary Based Community Engagement: Rebels for Community Solutions

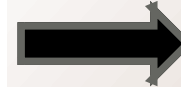
Community Needs Assessment

1. State & County assessments
2. Agency-based assessments
3. National comparisons
4. Community practitioners



Transdisciplinary Approach

1. Transdisciplinary Research
 - a. Graduate Assistants
 - b. Post Doctoral Fellowships
 - c. Transdisciplinary Doctoral Education
 - d. Research Institutes
2. Transdisciplinary Practice
3. Practice Based Research Networks
4. Evidence Based Approaches
5. Grant Writing and Procuring



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University Expertise

1. Research expertise
2. Training and teaching
3. Community involvement
4. Community practitioners



Community Solutions

- 1) Increased prevention programs
- 2) Increased UNLV & community collaboration
- 3) Increased evidence based approaches
- 4) Decrease in problem epidemiology
- 5) Increased community resilience

Products

Energetic GA from graduate school

Continuum of Care Board Membership (HUD)

31 different partners expanded network

\$135,000 first 6 months

Mapping university faculty to 12 grand challenges

Five White Papers

(2017-2019)

1.) The State of Youth Homelessness in Southern

Nevada (Patricia Cook-Craig, PhD, Jennifer Guthrie, PhD, William Sousa, PhD, Carlton Craig, PhD, Michael Bruner, PhD, Judy Tudor, MSW, Jessica Word, PhD, and Melissa Jacobowitz, MPA)

2.) Uncovering Challenges and Opportunity in Addressing Youth Homelessness in Southern

Nevada: Community Comparisons (Patricia Cook-Craig, PhD, Carlton Craig, PhD, Katie Lim, Arash Ghafoori, MA, & Melissa Jacobowitz, MPA)

3.) A Review of Policies that Impact Homeless

Youth in Southern Nevada (Kathleen Ja Sook Bergquist, LCSW, JD, PhD; Hannah Nelson, MSW/JD Candidate; Patricia Cook-Craig, PhD; William Sousa, PhD; Arash Ghafoori, MA; and Melissa Jacobowitz, MPA)

White Papers (Continued)

4.) Examining the Economic Cost of Youth

Homelessness in Southern Nevada (Jaewon Lim, PhD; Saba Manesh, MS; Patricia Cook-Craig, PhD; Arash Ghafoori, MA; & Melissa Jacobowitz, MPA)

5.) National and Regional Gaps, Overlooked Groups, and Policies in Nevada and Beyond

(Carlton Craig, Patty Cook-Craig, Natalia Samoylova, & Shelby Prows)

Identified 4 major risk groups for homeless youth

- LGBTQ
- Refugees and Immigrants
- Sexually Trafficked Youth
- Undocumented Youth

Three Papers for National Publication

Annual Summit on Youth Homelessness

Partnership with the Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth, Sands Corporation, UNLV School of Social Work and School of Public Policy and Leadership

(Over 200 attendees first year and 300 second year)

Two plenaries given by UNLV Faculty

Homeless Policy Council for Nevada

Student Involvement in Homeless Census and Homeless Alliance day

State of Nevada Survey (N =883 Nevada Voters)

C. Homelessness has become an important issue in Nevada. The State of Nevada and its local governments are working to address the issue. Which of the following would you be willing to support to help fund efforts to respond to homelessness. (Check the answer that best reflects your view on each item.)

	Would Support	Might Support	Would Not Support
Tax incentives to homebuilders to build affordable housing.	37.7%	42.8%	19.4%
Increasing the tax on marijuana for homeless prevention.	50.5%	26.8%	22.7%
Increasing the tax on alcohol and cigarettes to create a fund for homeless prevention.	44.9%	30.3%	24.8%
Develop state and local policies that reform eviction policies.	31.3%	43.5%	25.2%
Include a recording fee on real estate transactions for use on providing homeless and housing services.	18.4%	34.7%	47.0%
Provide funding to the state council on homelessness to work on developing statewide solutions to address homelessness.	32.7%	43.9%	23.3%

Social Work Non-traditional Sites Generated

- Partnered with Clark County Libraries to do social service evaluation
- Clark County Coroner's office
- Police and Fire Rescue Outreach
- Salvation Army outreach
- University outreach

UNLV School of Social Work Hires

Nicholas Barr, Ph.D. (University of Southern California)

Research is focused on improving mental and behavioral health outcomes in populations at high risk for traumatic experiences, including homeless youth and young adults and military veterans.

Prior to earning his Ph.D. at the USC School of Social Work, Dr. Barr worked as an outpatient psychiatric social worker for the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health.

Dr. Barr has a BA in comparative religion with a focus on Tibetan Buddhism.

Katherine Marcal, Ph.D (Washington University in St. Louis)

Research uses systems science to improve service delivery and promote child mental health in homeless families.

Her work has been funded by the National Institute of Mental Health and the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation at Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago

She has published in peer-reviewed journals across disciplines such as the *Child Maltreatment*, *Annual Review of Public Health*, and the *American Journal of Community Psychology*.

Tangential Relations

- Expanded alumni network (CHIPS)
- Las Vegas Police Homeless Outreach
- Family violence services
- Business School
- Engineering Department project collaboration
- Public Libraries
- Practice Based Research Networks
- APP for food insecure students
- Happier Clark County Social Service
- Meeting with Hope Scholars
- Ad hoc committee on homeless at UNLV
- [Free tuition for Foster Youth](#) and HOPEFULLY Homeless Youth
- Resiliency Center—10-01-2017 Shooting
- Israeli Trauma Coalition

Social Work Grand Challenges

(AASWSW, 2019)

Guiding Principles

- Social Justice
- Inclusiveness
- Diversity
- Equity

Efforts Embrace the Four Principles

- Imagination, Discovery, and Innovation
- Excellence
- Integrity
- Service
- Impact

Grand Challenges for Social Work

Guideposts for Action (AASWSW, 2019)

Recognizing context

Embracing, resistance, resilience, and resurgence

Welcoming process

Broadening inclusion

Opening up to all perspectives

Creating opportunities

Engaging purposefully

Evaluating accountability