



FAMILY SCIENCE & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Department Newsletter

JANUARY 2024

FSHD Students Collect 240 Pounds of Food for Immigrant Families

In keeping with the mission of the Department of Family Science and Human Development - which is to strengthen the health and well-being of individuals, families, and communities - FSHD Professor Olena Nesteruk guided her *Immigrant Families* class in conducting a holiday food drive. The initiative benefitted Welcome Home Jersey City, a non-profit organization that provides refugees and asylum-seekers with educational, employment, and material assistance in the Jersey City area.

The drive specifically focused on collecting five high-demand pantry staples: flour, sugar, rice, dried beans, and cooking oil. It was conducted with creative support from the FSHD Department, the College for Community Health, and beyond. Some FSHD faculty offered extra credit if students made a donation, and the Nutrition and Food Studies Department rallied behind this project to collect a generous amount of groceries! In just three weeks, the drive netted 240 pounds of food to support families in need! ■



The FSHD food drive reaped 240 pounds of flour, sugar, rice, beans and oil for refugees and asylum-seekers.



Students in the FSHD Immigrant Families class proudly display signs and flyers advertising their food drive that supported families in the Jersey City area.

Department Chair's Corner

I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year 2024! As we usher in a fresh start to a brand new leap (a leap year, no less!) I hope this message finds everyone in good health and high spirits after some extended time away from school and work, time that was hopefully both enjoyable and restorative.



Dr. Lyndal Khaw

We start the new year with some good news as we welcome a new member to FSHD and to the Montclair community, Dr. Helal Mohiuddin, who joins us as a Visiting Professor for one year. Dr. Mohiuddin is a Professor of Social Sciences and Humanities at North South University in Dhaka, Bangladesh. As a truly global and interdisciplinary scholar, he earned his Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology at the University of Manitoba in Canada, and two Masters degrees from the University of Dhaka in Bangladesh and the Asian Institute of Technology in Thailand. Currently, he is also the Director of Research and Communication at the Conflict and Resilience Research Institute in Canada.

Dr. Mohiuddin has established himself as a community-engaged scholar and activist largely in the areas of refugee health and well-being, human rights, peace and conflict resolution, NGOs and civil societies, as well as social inclusion and diversity from a developmental perspective. He will be teaching FSHD 200 - *Introduction to FSHD* this Spring, and our students can look forward to engaging with Dr. Mohiuddin and learning more about his work!

(Continued on page 2)

DATES TO REMEMBER

- January 7**
Deadline to finalize Spring24 FSHD internship
- January 8**
Winter Commencement
- January 15**
Deadline to apply to FSHD PhD Program
- January 16**
Spring semester begins
- January 22**
Last day to add/drop
- February 1**
Deadline to [Apply](#) for Teacher Education Program

Dr. Brad van Eeden-Moorefield Hosts *Collabolutions* Podcast

FSHD Professor Brad van Eeden-Moorefield hosted the inaugural episode of *Collabolutions*, the new podcast produced by Montclair's College for Community Health (CCHL).

As CCHL's Senior DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) Fellow, van Eeden-Moorefield conceived the idea of a podcast to brainstorm solutions to some of today's most common and persistent structural and social inequities that undermine health and well-being. Each episode will tap the expertise of Montclair faculty and staff, as well as representatives from community partner organizations.

The Presentation Room in the School of Communication and Media served as the setting for Season 1, Episode 1, "Trust Fall," which addressed approaches and methodologies for agencies and organizations to build a trusting relationship with clients/individuals who may have been rejected or dismissed by the very systems designed to help them.

Trust Fall featured a conversation with two representatives from the Paterson-based organization Oasis - A Haven for Women and Children. Jim Walsh, Director of Community Outreach, and Evelyn Cuciti, the Student Services Manager, shared their insights and experiences about the importance of building a sense of trust and respect with their clients.

Representing Montclair State University and the College for Community Health were FSHD Professor Dr. Pauline Garcia-Reid who co-directs Project C.O.P.E. (Communities Organizing for Prevention and Empowerment); Counseling Professor Dr. Muninder Ahluwalia; and CCHL Student Success Center Director Hanan Atiyat. The podcast will be released for broadcast in the Spring of 2024. ■



Recording the first episode of CCHL's podcast "Collabolutions," are (l-r) Jim Walsh, Evelyn Cuciti, Pauline Garcia-Reid, Brad van Eeden-Moorefield, Muninder Ahluwalia, and Hanan Atiyat.

Department Chair's Corner *(Continued from page 1)*

2024 is a year of promising opportunities and growth for our department, as our faculty and staff are hard at work in making sure that our curriculum continues to meet the growing and evolving needs of individuals, families, and communities. Nationally, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates a 12% growth in the job market for *helping* professions, as needs become imminent and more complex, especially in the fields of education, mental health, and aging.

This means two things - 1) you're in the right major! and 2) we must ensure that our students feel prepared to enter the workforce with the knowledge, basic skill set, and mindset to help, advocate, and support people effectively, all with an eye towards reducing social inequalities and increasing access for everyone. As we do our curricular introspections, I want to thank our stakeholders and community partners who have been so instrumental in helping us identify these needs, in addition to supervising and tirelessly mentoring our students for fieldwork or internship hours. No doubt I am energized by the good work that we do here in FSHD and I am grateful for our FSHD community!

May the new year bring you a renewed sense of ambition, curiosity, and excitement as you start your first weeks of classes this semester. Have a wonderful year ahead. ■



Social Justice Initiatives

Meet the 2024 FSHD Social Justice Advisory Board

The FSHD Social Justice Advisory Board provides direction and input for the Family Science and Human Development Department's social justice programming, community impact and strategic initiatives.

Undergraduate Student Representative



Devin Sanderson-Raphael

(they, them, theirs)

Senior Family Science and Human Development major with a minor in Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies

"Social justice initiatives should be thought of as a living process, changing to fit the needs of the current climate and adapting to a new wealth of information. Without flexibility and resilience, so-

cial justice can not fit the needs of the communities that need it most."

Ph.D. Student Representative

Yanira B. Amadeo

(she/her/ella)

FSHD Doctoral Student
Director of Development
Office of Development
Montclair State University

"My life's purpose revolves around philanthropy-driven education, seeking to dismantle societal barriers of oppression, foster decolonization, and grow generational wealth within diverse families. With investment into student access and success, I aim to empower marginalized communities by helping to address systemic inequalities to promote a more inclusive and financially equitable future. As a self-proclaimed social justice warrior, I believe together, we can break down barriers and build a foundation of knowledge that transcends the limitations of historical injustices."



Ph.D. Alumni Representative

Autumn Bermea, Ph.D.

(she/her, they/them)

Assistant Professor
College of Education & Human Ecology
The Ohio State University

"Social justice is the practice of recognizing, resisting, and changing oppressive structures and systems."



Staff Representative



Vian Sabat

(she/her/hers)

Ph.D. Program Associate
Family Science and Human Development Department
Montclair State University

"I believe social justice means everyone has the right to human rights. That no matter their race, gender, or socioeconomic standing they are given access to equal op-

portunities and resources, to live the life they desire."

Ph.D. Alumni Representative

Rebecca Swann-Jackson, M.Ed., Ph.D.

(she/her/hers)

Associate Research Manager, Institute for Families
School of Social Work, Rutgers University

"When I think of social justice, I think of a quote from James Baldwin. Uncle Jimmy said, 'If I love you, I have to make you conscious of the things you do not see.' For me, social justice starts with recognition of the four I's of oppression - interpersonal, internalized, ideological, and institutional. We have to recognize oppression and injustice as systemic."



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Community Liaison



Jim Walsh, C.S.W.

(he/him/his)

Director of Community Outreach/
Social Worker

Oasis - A Haven for Women & Children

"For me, Social Justice means equality for all, in all aspects of our life. Unfortunately, in today's climate, we face many important issues, voting rights, gender equality, climate change, wealth disparity, gun violence, hunger, immigration, incarceration,

just to name a few. Awareness is the key, and this community Advisory Board allows us the opportunity to voice our concerns and affect change in our society."

Undergraduate Alumni Representative

Jasmine Rae Williams, M.Ed.

(she/her/hers)

"Allyship, integrity, and collaboration: these are the values that lay in my core principles of life and I believe are imperative to embody as a professional in the Education and Human Services field. Being raised in a diverse community with an extremely strong minority presence in every facet of our human identities, from race to religious identities to the LGBTQIA+ community, I recognized that an



effective leader must have constant consideration for the unique experiences of others and use any privileges to uplift disadvantaged groups. As

an empowered individual, I strive to help all students to find their voice and foster a community of activists across community lines."



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Community Liaison



Reham Bader

(she/ her/hers)

Director of Community Health and
Well-Being

Arab American Family Support Center

"To me, social justice is the fair distribution of rights and opportunities for all. I look forward to being part of the Social Justice Advisory board and working together to impact our communities."

Raise Awareness about Human Trafficking

National Human Trafficking Awareness Day is commemorated each year on January 11. In its efforts to raise awareness about this widespread but often invisible crime, the Department of Homeland Security's Blue Campaign hosts special events



and educational activities throughout the month of January, with the largest being #WearBlueDay.

On this day, the public is encouraged to snap photos of themselves, friends, family, and colleagues wearing blue clothing and share them on social media with the hashtag #WearBlueDay. Everyone can participate!

On Friday, February 2, 2024, the university's [Global Center on Human Trafficking](#) will host a legislative breakfast addressing human trafficking in New Jersey, with a keynote address by the state's Attorney General Matthew Platkin. ■

Career & Internship Insights

Spring Interns: Time is Running Out

Family Services students eligible for the Spring 2024 internship must have a fully approved internship by January 7. Digital paperwork must be fully APPROVED by the site supervisor and Career & Internship Services.

Students who need assistance with internships or career information can contact the advisors in the Career & Internship Services office in University Hall 1180 at 973-655-7866 or CCHLcareer@montclair.edu.

Planning to Become a Teacher?

The goal of FSHD students in the School Settings concentration (the teaching track) is to become a teacher. If this is you, you'll need to apply to the [Teacher Education Program](#). It's important to speak with Program Advisor Ian Bouie to understand the requirements, process and proper time. Make an appointment with him through Navigate (within Nest).

The Spring application deadline is **Thursday, February 1**. ■

Propel Your FSHD Career with a Master's Program

Social Work

Montclair's Master of Social Work (MSW) prepares practitioners to provide clinical and advocacy services to vulnerable children, adolescents, and their families. This program is one of seven in New Jersey to earn accreditation from the Council on Social Work Education, the national association representing social work education.

Learn more about this unique, cohort-based program and find out how it can help propel your career to the next level or shift gears and explore new directions.

**Master of Social Work (MSW)
Virtual Information Session
Thursday, January 4, 2024 at 7:00 PM**

Webinar participants will interact with faculty, learn about the program's structure and admission requirements, and gain insight into career opportunities. [Register here](#).

Career Corner

With a degree in Family Science and Human Development, you can pursue a career in...

Food Assistance

A career in food assistance involves providing support and resources to individuals or communities facing food insecurity or limited access to nutritious food. Your goals are to ensure that people have access to an adequate and sustainable food supply, and to address the root causes of food insecurity.

As a food assistance professional, your responsibilities might include:

- Managing food banks and pantries, or coordinating food distribution programs
- Conducting needs assessments
- Advocating for policy changes
- Organizing community outreach initiatives
- Promoting nutrition education
- Collaborating with local organizations or government agencies

Essential skills for this rewarding career path include strong communication and organizational skills, as well as an empathetic persona. ■



Child Advocacy

The Online Master of Arts in Child Advocacy and Policy offers students an applied course of study in child advocacy which combines an understanding of psychology, social work, and law. The coursework focuses on family empowerment, forensic interviewing, child abuse, families in crisis, child welfare, and advocacy policy.

**Master's in Child Advocacy and Policy
Virtual Information Session
Monday, January 22, 2024 at 8:00 PM**

Participants will acquire a comprehensive view of the child advocacy field, including multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary components; a particular understanding of the intricacies of the public child welfare system; and competencies in knowledge, methods and applications needed for careers and professional development in this field. [Register here](#). ■

Student Spotlight

Emily Miller

Emily Miller is a senior majoring in Family Science and Human Development with a concentration in Families, Children and School Settings (the teaching track).

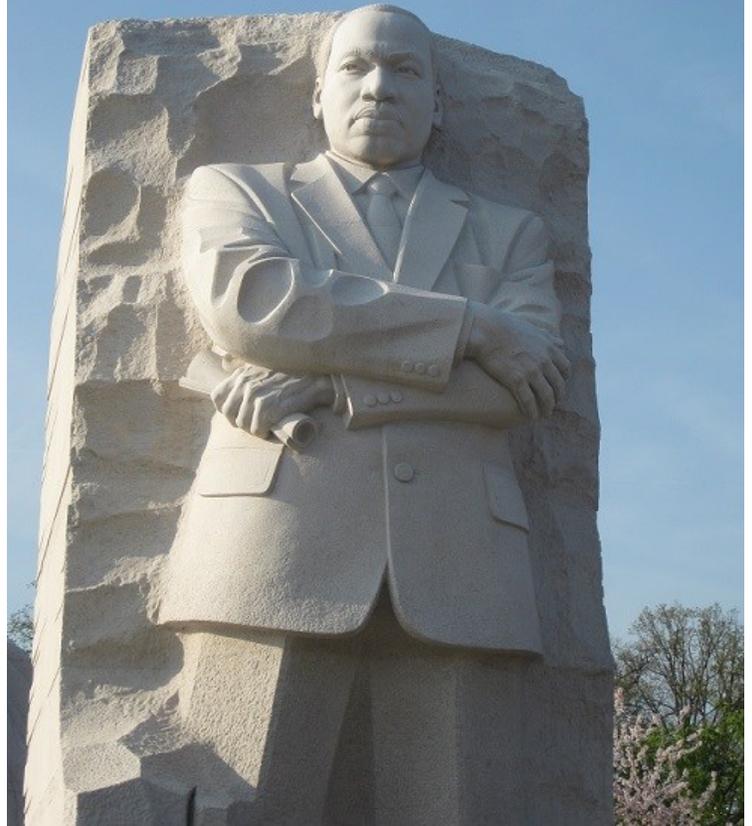


Her Story: Since she was younger, Miller has known she wanted to work with kids. Being unsure if she was aspiring to go into teaching or follow another career path that involved working with children, she chose to major in FSHD after discovering that it is a perfect middle ground!

Her Plan: To achieve her goal of obtaining a master's degree in education, Miller is currently enrolled in the five-year combined Bachelor's/MAT program that leads to teacher certification with a baccalaureate degree and a master's degree.

Her Thoughts: "Really immerse yourself into your courses because you will get a lot out of them and learn things you never would've expected to learn about!" ■

FSHD Celebrates the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. 1929 - 1968



FSHD Department Offers Two Minors

Gerontology minor: Explore the study of aging and how it relates to other fields. [click here](#).

Family Science and Human Development minor: Learn more about this interdisciplinary field. [click here](#).

Find Parking on Campus with Parking Logix App

Montclair State University has introduced a new and improved parking app to provide up-to-date information about availability in parking decks and surface lots.



Parking Logix Parker Mobile is available for Android and Apple devices and instantly connects to the cloud to show real-time space availability by parking lot.

The case-sensitive Provider's Code is **montclair-state-u** to access Montclair's information. ■

Family Science and Human Development

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