

Yvonne M. Chase, PhD, LCSW, ACSW President University of Alaska

Julia M. Bernard, PhD, LMFT, CFLE Vice President of Accreditation Norwich University

Seta Kabranian-Melkonian, PhD Vice President of Publications University of Alaska

Nicole Jackson-Walker, EdD, MA-LPC, DCC, HS-BCP Treasurer Brookdale Community College

Paul Datti, Ph.D., C.R.C., HS-BCP Board Member at Large University of Scranton

Judith Herzberg, PhD Board Member-at-Large Springfield College Boston, Massachusetts

Nicole Kras, PhD, Guttman Community College Member-at-Large University of New York New York City, NY

Cheryl McGill, MS, NCP, HS-BCP Board Member-at-Large Florence-Darlington Technical College

James Ruby, PhD Board Member-at-Large California State University Fullerton, CA

Lauri Weiner, J.D., HS-BCP Board Member-at -Large Stevenson University

Tracee Washington Board Member-at-Large Capella University

Victoria Schultz Board Member-at-Large Wharton County Community College

Council for Standards in Human Service Education

Assuring best practices in Human Service Education through evidence-based standards and a peer-review accreditation process

https://cshse.org 9600 SW Oak St., Ste. 565, Tigard, OR 97223 503-253-9385

11/18/2024

John Rosicky, Ph.D. (Program Coordinator); OWINGS MILLS CAMPUS 100 Campus Circle Owings Mills, MD 21117-7804

Re: CSHSE Board accreditation decision

Dear Dr. Rosicky,

The CSHSE Board reviewed the Reader reports and voted to **reaccredit the** *Counseling and Human Services Baccalaureate Degree program at Stevenson University* with no conditions. The program's accreditation cycle will be from October 2024 to October 2029.

The Readers noted many strengths of the program:

From Self-Study

- 1. The Schram and Mandel (2000) framework that is the foundation of the curriculum is a clear link to human services scholarship/literature.
- 2. The curriculum is well-rounded.
- 3. Program updates reflect current issues in human services, such as including the crisis around fentanyl and opioids usage.
- 4. Innovation within the assignments, such as the assignment that has students interview an immigrant to learn about their perspectives and experiences.
- 5. Feedback from evaluations was considered in program updates.
- 6. The faculty CVs indicate depth of experience and an impressive range of educational and professional backgrounds that are relevant to human services. They are experienced with appropriate credentials.
- 7. Even with the reduction of the internship to 360 hours, students still complete 450 hours of field experience, which is significant.
- 8. The Advisory Board provides diverse perspectives.
- 9. NOHS standards are incorporated into the program's policies/procedures, such as the NOHS code of ethics.

From Site Visit

1. Site supervisors, advisory board members and students themselves feel wellprepared, even over prepared compared to peers from other institutions, to work as human services professionals.

2. Students prove to be reliable and competent and understand professional issues such as confidentiality, disability/accessibility issues and are prepared for their roles.



Council for Standards in Human Service Education

Assuring best practices in Human Service Education through evidence-based standards and a peer-review accreditation process

https://cshse.org 9600 SW Oak St., Ste. 565, Tigard, OR 97223 503-253-9385

3. Students first complete a 90-hour internship placement in their junior year before completing a 9-credit (360 hour) internship

placement in their senior year. It is the only course they take, so the internship is like a full-time job.

4. Students appreciate the addition of counseling to the program.

5. The field placement handbook is clear: supervisors feel it provides good direction in supervision.

6. Classes are small and intimate, which allows the students to get to know each other and their professors. They report this makes them feel more comfortable applying their own personal experiences to the concepts in their courses, which enhances their learning experience.

7. The opportunity to earn a master's degree with an additional year of coursework is beneficial for students.

8. Students refer to their work as "real life work, simplified for students."

9. Faculty members meet once a month; adjuncts are invited to attend as well.

10. Online Blackboard training is provided to all faculty and it is universal, whether they teach online or in person. Quality matters standards are used to inform the design.

11. Advising is required; this fosters strong student-faculty relationships. Students feel supported and understood.

Students continue in a variety of paths (graduate school, joining the workforce) and feel well-prepared for both.

The next accreditation cycle will be an interim report and review cycle. The self-study submission must be completed within the timeline for the October 2029 Board review. A copy of this letter must be included with your next self-study.

As an accredited program, the Program must regularly review information on the CSHSE website, https://cshse.org, for any new changes in policies and standards. Your program must use the standards that are in effect at the time when the application is submitted for the next cycle.

During this accreditation cycle, your accredited program has the responsibility to maintain active CSHSE membership each year of the accreditation cycle for the accreditation status to remain in good standing. Refer to the Member Handbook, Accreditation and Self-Study Guidelines for updated information. Additionally, the accredited program shall ensure that the program representative contact information remains current with CSHSE and is updated as needed.

Please refer to the Board actions for maintaining accreditation in Appendix I of the Member Handbook. Your Program must ensure that program and student achievement indicators on the CSHSE website remain accurate (within 2 years of the current academic year) and the hyperlinks remain active. The CSHSE will review this information at each board meeting during the year: February, June, and October. Contact the CSHSE VPA if a hyperlink must be revised so that our website is current with your program information.

Congratulations on accreditation with the Council for Standards in Human Service Education becoming accredited and supporting quality and excellence in human services education.

A formal certificate, signed by our President, Dr. Yvonne Chase, will be forthcoming.

Sincerely,

Julia M Becerra

Julia M. Becerra Bernard, Ph.D., LMFT, CFLE, CCTP (she, her, hers) Vice President of Accreditation Council for Standards in Human Services Education 9600 SW Oak St., Ste. 565 Tigard, OR 97223