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Michael Sherraden discusses what's ahead for CSD



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YouthSave empowers children to start savings accounts

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of Social Work



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Nancy Morrow-Howell on the evolving field of aging research



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For the Sake of All studies the health of African-Americans in STL

SOCIAL IMPACT™



Dollars & Sense

BRINGING FINANCIAL EDUCATION
BACK INTO THE SOCIAL WORKER'S TOOLKIT



HILLMAN

HILLMAN HALL

The newest building in Brown School's social work and public health complex brings many of our researchers, administrators and staff together on one campus. Hillman Hall will be officially dedicated on October 2, 2015.

To learn more about how Hillman Hall embodies the values of the Brown School, see page 36.

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FEATURES

6 The Future of CSD

After reflecting on the Center for Social Development's (CSD) groundbreaking work during its first 20 years, Michael Sherraden discusses CSD's current work and outlines some areas of focus for its next 20 years, which he calls "CSD 2.0" — including employment issues, housing, American Indian studies, child well-being, youth development and decarceration.

8 Dollars & Sense

This innovative curriculum, Financial Capability & Asset Building, closes a gap in the skills and knowledge of social workers by preparing them to educate low- and moderate-income families on issues of personal finance. What began as a CSD working paper evolved into several books and valuable partnerships with educational institutions across the country that serve diverse communities.

14 YouthSave

YouthSave is a youth savings initiative in Colombia, Ghana, Kenya and Nepal. The goal of the five-year project is to understand the conditions for sustainable delivery of savings products and services that can improve the life chances of low-income youths in the developing world.

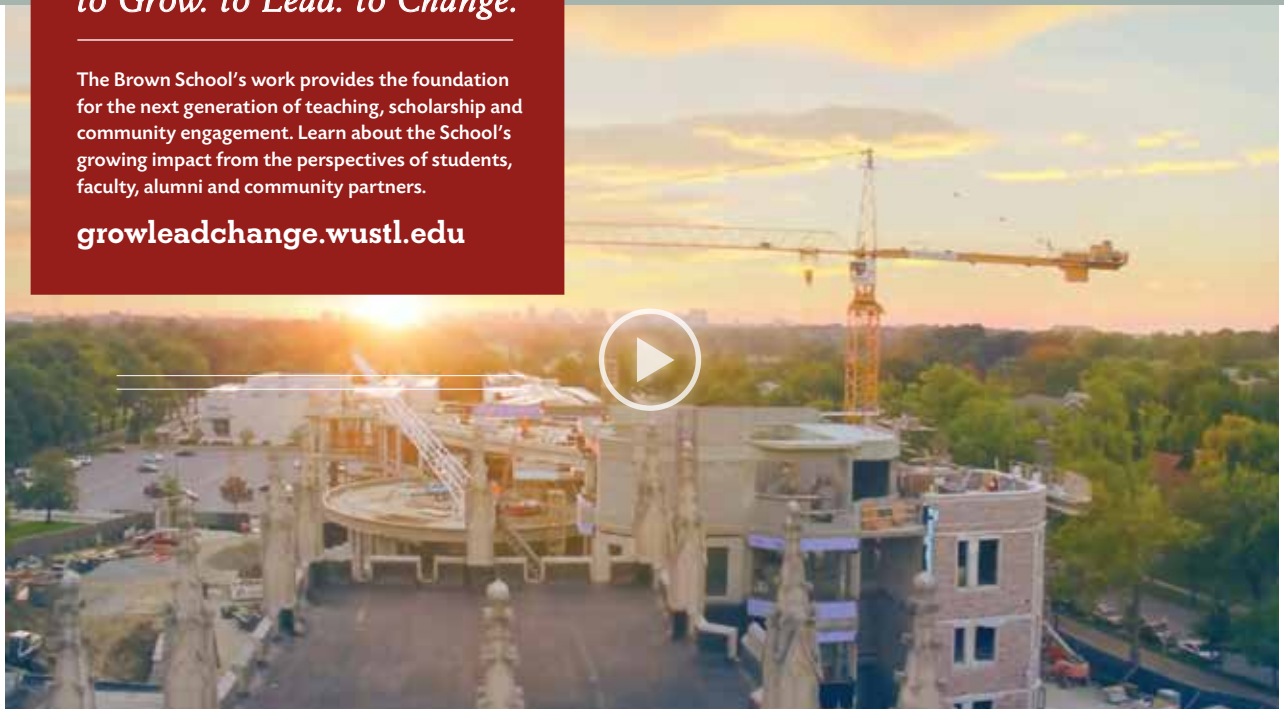


Hillman Hall | Next Era of the Brown School


to Grow. to Lead. to Change.

The Brown School's work provides the foundation for the next generation of teaching, scholarship and community engagement. Learn about the School's growing impact from the perspectives of students, faculty, alumni and community partners.

growleadchange.wustl.edu



THERE'S MORE TO THE STORY...

Throughout this issue of *Social Impact*, you will see this icon  to direct you to additional online content.

brownschool.wustl.edu/SocialImpact



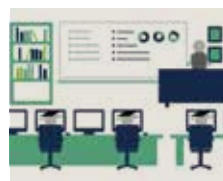
HAITI TPS
COURSE VIDEO

Students in the “Transdisciplinary Problem-Solving” course gained experience by integrating skills and research from multiple disciplines to address public health and development issues.
mph.wustl.edu/global



INDIA INSTITUTE
VIDEO

The India Institute gives Brown School students a practical opportunity to apply systems thinking and skills to understand the challenges facing rural villagers in India's drylands.
msw.wustl.edu/global



“TWO LIVES
OF JASMINE”

Early childhood circumstances can have dramatic effects on lifelong outcomes. A video by the For the Sake of All project illustrates these disparities through the story of Jasmine.
forthesakeofall.org/jasmine



“WHEN I'M SIXTY-
FOUR: TRANSFORMING
YOUR FUTURE”

Nancy Morrow-Howell's course challenges students from across the university to consider what productive aging will look like for them, as part of the “aging revolution.”
See page 24

BIG IDEAS, Social Innovation & Collective Action



Photo by Geoff Story | TOKY

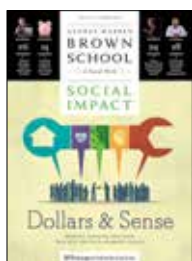
organizations, leaders and policymakers. Another ingredient in this translation is training and supporting the workforce who will teach, practice and implement new models. As you will read in this issue, the development of a cadre of teachers and practitioners in financial capability is an exemplar of the approach.

It is clear that our professional fields are ripe for this kind of translation and scaling to produce significant impact. In both social work and public health, there is a massive push to tackle and address “grand challenges,” local as well as global priorities, in big and collective efforts.

Our faculty is engaged in so many of these efforts: water quality, productive aging and malnutrition, as well as obesity, energy impoverishment, child well-being and a host of others. We believe the solutions to these challenges will require work across disciplines and across institutions. We also believe that the arc of social innovation that CSD has so effectively demonstrated — from idea to policy implementation at scale — is a model for advancing other important interventions.

I hope you enjoy this issue of *Social Impact* and that it gives you a sense of great optimism about the power of ideas, professional leadership, social innovation and professional education.

EDWARD F. LAWLOR
Dean and the William E. Gordon
Distinguished Professor



This issue of *Social Impact* celebrates the important work of Michael Sherraden, his colleagues and the Center for Social Development (CSD) over a great 20-year run.

CSD was founded on the belief that social innovation, born of theory and ideas, rigorously evaluated, scaled up and implemented, is the path by which universities and schools like ours can positively influence policy and practice.

Michael's experience and the work of CSD are an object lesson for the larger fields of social work and public health, which are applied professions looking to translate work into larger social good. The ingredients of this translation include careful research and active — not passive — dissemination of results. This means active engagement with



We encourage your reactions and suggestions.

Please email communications@brownschool.wustl.edu with your news, comments or ideas.

NEW CENTERS



Evaluation Center



Mueller

The Evaluation Center mobilizes the Brown School's faculty, staff and students to address a significant community need: improving the evaluation capacity of social service and public health organizations. The Evaluation

Center's work — consultation, evaluation design and implementation, training and research — will empower organizations to use evidence to evaluate their programs, demonstrate positive outcomes and meet the accountability requirements of funders. Nancy Mueller, assistant dean for planning and evaluation, was named director of the new center.

[▶ brownschool.wustl.edu/Evaluation](http://brownschool.wustl.edu/Evaluation)



Concordance Institute for Advancing Social Justice



Pettus-Davis

The Concordance Institute for Advancing Social Justice aims to expand the research on what works to improve the well-being of individuals and families impacted by involvement in the criminal justice system. Assistant Professor Carrie

Pettus-Davis, who is also director of the Center for Social Development's Smart Decarceration Initiative, is leading the Concordance Institute's research.

The Concordance Institute has partnered with the Concordance Academy of Leadership, a community-university collaboration committed to delivering evidence-based, holistic reentry services to justice-involved adults.

[▶ brownschool.wustl.edu/Concordance](http://brownschool.wustl.edu/Concordance)

NEW JOINT-DEGREE PROGRAMS

Master of Public Health/ Master of Science in Occupational Therapy

MPH/MSOT

In partnership with Washington University School of Medicine, the Brown School has launched an MPH/MSOT joint-degree program. Graduates will fill a significant need for health care professionals who are trained to address issues of prevention, participation, everyday functional performance, habilitation and quality of life in persons with chronic disease, disability or sociocultural disadvantage.

[▶ mph.wustl.edu/dual](http://mph.wustl.edu/dual)

Master of Social Work/ Master of Arts in Education

MSW/MAEd

Recognizing the significant need for professionals who can address students' social and emotional needs, as well as their academic achievement, the Brown School has introduced an MSW/MAEd joint-degree program. Offered in partnership with the Department of Education in Washington University's Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, the MSW/MAEd program prepares graduates for excellence and leadership in schools, as well as in advocacy and policy.

[▶ msw.wustl.edu/dual](http://msw.wustl.edu/dual)

Master of Social Policy/ Master of Arts

MSP/MA



Students of the School of Social Development and Public Policy at Fudan University in Shanghai, China, can now pair an MA degree with the newly introduced Master of Social Policy degree from the Brown School. The joint-degree program provides a global perspective on policy analysis, evaluation and management, preparing graduates for leadership positions in government, business and nonprofit organizations.

[▶ brownschool.wustl.edu/SocialPolicy](http://brownschool.wustl.edu/SocialPolicy)



Next Age Institute

THE CENTER FOR HEALTH BEHAVIOR CHANGE



Sherraden

Washington University and the National University of Singapore have established the Next Age Institute, an international partnership to study, design and test social innovations. A program of the McDonnell International Scholars

Academy, the Next Age Institute will address global challenges facing many families and communities, among them aging populations and rising inequality.

The founding director of the institute is Michael Sherraden, the George Warren Brown Distinguished University Professor, who also serves as director of the Center for Social Development.

csd.wustl.edu/NextAgeInstitute



Grinstein-Weiss

The Center for Health Behavior Change is an industry-academic partnership that will translate behavior change science into evidence-based strategies to improve health, prevent disease and reduce health care costs.

Michal Grinstein-Weiss will serve as director and principal investigator for the partnership with Nurtur Health, Inc.

The center's research projects include: 1) tailoring communication to improve health outcomes, led by Matthew W. Kreuter; 2) designing and implementing evidence-based interventions around obesity prevention and diabetes treatment, led by Debra Haire-Joshu; and 3) using behavioral economics insights to promote health behavior change, led by Dan Ariely of Duke University.

NEW PROGRAM

Doctor of Medicine/ Master of Public Health

MD/MPH

The MD/MPH degree, designed for medical students with a special interest in community health, approaches improving health from the perspective of prevention. Students gain an understanding of the social, economic, environmental and cultural determinants of health and learn to apply evidence-based approaches to community-level disease prevention, health promotion and health policy. This joint degree is offered in partnership with Washington University School of Medicine.

mph.wustl.edu/dual



Morrow-Howell

next move >>>

Re-Careering for Social Impact

The Brown School's Next Move program provides training and support to older adults seeking an "encore career" with a social purpose. Nancy Morrow-Howell's research focuses on re-careering for social impact.

Marc Freedman, a member of the Brown School's National Council, founded Encore.org in 1997 to advance the idea of leveraging the skills and talents of experienced adults to improve communities and the world. Karen Sanders serves as the Brown School Encore Innovation Fellow, a position co-sponsored with Encore.org. Next Move's evening and weekend workshop series, Exploring Your Encore Career, offers goal-setting, training and networking opportunities to people ready to investigate socially minded new careers.

brownschool.wustl.edu/NextMove

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF
INQUIRY, INNOVATION AND IMPACT



Michael Sherraden

the future OF CSD

Michael Sherraden is thinking, planning and laying solid groundwork for CSD's next 20 years.

by Rick Skwiot

In his groundbreaking book, *Assets and the Poor: A New American Welfare Policy* (M.E. Sharpe Inc., 1991), Michael Sherraden, the George Warren Brown Distinguished University Professor, introduced a new approach to family and community development: asset-building. In 1994, he was appointed as founding director of the Center for Social Development (CSD) at the Brown School. During CSD's subsequent 20 years, its faculty associates — who today number more than 50 — authored hundreds of publications,

policy reports and congressional testimonies. Also during that time, Sherraden advised U.S. and global policy leaders on asset-building. A testimony to the broad reach of his efforts was his naming in 2010 to the "Time 100," *Time* magazine's annual list of the 100 most influential people in the world.

Sherraden spoke with *Social Impact* about his vision for the future of CSD, including new projects both already underway and planned, and the key people involved.

CSD 2.0

2.0 "I started to think about the next 20 years as CSD 2.0. We're expanding and bringing in new bodies of work and some promising scholars. A main theme for CSD going forward — though it's always been our theme — is to create and test social innovations and strategies that can be effective in various areas of social life: finance, child development, housing and the criminal justice system. We think of ourselves as a kind of research and development shop. We look for evidence, and when we have evidence, we try to take that to the policy world."

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



"We also want to focus more on youth development and transitions to adulthood. Sean Joe, the Benjamin E. Youngdahl Professor of Social Development, is going to lead the youth development work, working with Sheretta Butler-Barnes, assistant professor, and David Patterson."

 Center for
Social Development
CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF INQUIRY, INNOVATION AND IMPACT

AMERICAN INDIAN STUDIES



“CSD has always had a strong relationship with the Brown School’s Kathryn M. Buder Center for American Indian Studies. We’ve been working closely with Molly Tovar, professor of practice and director of the Buder Center, and David Patterson, assistant professor, the first tenure-track Native American faculty member at the Brown School, on development projects related to American Indians. CSD also co-funds a Buder Fellowship with the dean’s office, aimed at bringing in a doctoral student interested in American Indian studies every year.”

CHILD WELL-BEING



“We are focusing on child well-being — thinking about policies for children that go beyond child protection. Protecting kids from abuse is a huge focus in the United States, and that’s an important topic. There is a whole area of work to be done on children developing to their best capacities, and how public policies can support families. Patricia Kohl, associate professor and interim associate dean for social work, is leading that area at CSD.”

EMPLOYMENT ISSUES



“We’re working on a project I started that is called Livable Lives, with partnerships across campus. This project resulted in a book edited by Marion Crain, vice provost and the Wiley B. Rutledge Professor of Law, and myself, *Working and Living in the Shadow of Economic Fragility* (Oxford University Press, 2014). This book addresses employment issues, especially at the social-economic bottom.”

We should be thinking about policies that are about more than just protecting children from being abused.

THE NEXT
20 YEARS

DECARCERATION



“Carrie Pettus-Davis, assistant professor, is partnering with Matt Epperson, assistant professor at the University of Chicago — the two are leaders in decarceration in social work. We recognize that mass incarceration in America over the last four decades has been dysfunctional. For economic reasons, states can’t afford to support large populations in prison. Karen Tokarz, the Charles Nagel Professor of Public Interest Law & Public Service at Washington University’s School of Law, is also very involved in this topic.”

A main theme for CSD going forward is to create and test social innovations and strategies that can be effective in various areas of social life: finance, youth development, housing and the criminal justice system.

HOUSING



“We’re starting a second Livable Lives project on inclusive housing, focusing on the availability of shelter and reducing segregation by class and race. Molly Metzger, assistant professor, is leading that project. There are plans for a conference this fall, which we hope results in a book and in turn generates a body of research.”

TAX-TIME SAVINGS



“CSD Associate Director Michal Grinstein-Weiss leads several initiatives using behavioral science techniques to create savings opportunities and improved financial capability for Americans. Refund to Savings, an industry-academic partnership with Intuit Inc., builds a saving-promotion experiment into tax filing software available to low- and moderate-income families. myRA at tax time, an experiment with the U.S. Treasury Department, investigates improving retirement security for low-income Americans through testing messaging about and interest in myRA accounts (My Retirement accounts). These efforts will continue to move forward with momentum and contribute much-needed evidence in these areas.”

As the Financial Capability & Asset Building curriculum works to rebuild a lost capacity in the social work profession, partnerships with universities across the country are producing promising early results.

by Rick Skwiot



Illustration by Michael Austin

DOLLARS & SENSE

BRINGING FINANCIAL EDUCATION BACK INTO THE SOCIAL WORKER'S TOOLKIT

In its early days at the turn of the 20th century, American social work focused on household economic life because many problems resulted from poverty. Over the years, however, social work education targeted other problems — even as low- and moderate-income populations became increasingly subject to predatory lenders and extractive financial operations. To help implement corrective curricula in schools of social work and elsewhere, the Brown School's Center for Social Development (CSD) launched the Financial Capability & Asset Building (FCAB) initiative.

“What we’re trying to do is rebuild a lost capacity within the profession,” says Mike Rochelle Jr., FCAB project director. “This element was in traditional social work education, but it was lost around the 1950s. We’re trying to bring financial education back into professional training, to give social workers a better toolkit to interact with their clients.”

An Obvious Need

“The need is clear,” Rochelle says. “It’s the obvious thing to do because financial vulnerability has some role in almost every issue a social worker encounters. Whether it’s homelessness, substance abuse or domestic violence, we’ve seen time and time again that there is usually a financial component.”

Funded in part by Wells Fargo Advisors, the FCAB project grew out of the work of Washington University alumna Margaret Sherraden, research professor at the Brown School and professor at the University of Missouri–St. Louis, who is overseeing the project.

“For many years, as I was teaching and doing work in community development and asset development, I saw that social workers were not prepared to address the financial side of their work — economics, personal finance, policy structures, financial services,” Sherraden says. “So I started bringing into my class a colleague who was a personal finance expert, a family economist, to talk with my students — and they loved it.”



Above: Pete Coser (left), program manager of the Brown School's Kathryn M. Buder Center for American Indian Studies, collaborates with Mike Rochelle Jr. (right), FCAB project director, on a presentation for tribal colleges and universities.

"They said, 'We have to help people set up household budgets, but we really have no training in them.'

"Social workers have to understand not only their agency budget but household budgets and how communities are functioning economically. They have to be able to sit down with economists and bankers who speak a different language. So I began thinking about how we could do that," Sherraden says.

Central to that effort was first defining *financial capability* for social work. "Financial capability," according to Sherraden's 2010 CSD working paper on the topic, "includes both the ability to act (knowledge, skills, confidence and motivation) and the opportunity to act (through access to quality financial products and services)." She advanced the concept in a volume she co-edited with Julie Birkenmaier, professor,

and Jami Curley, associate professor, at St. Louis University: *Financial Capability and Asset Development: Research, Education, Policy, and Practice* (Oxford University Press, 2013). Sherraden and Birkenmaier continued this work with the CSD team to develop the curriculum.

The resulting FCAB curriculum includes units on financial institutions, products and services; earnings, public benefits and taxes;

spending, budgeting and cash management; saving, investing and asset-building; credit, debt and debt negotiation; risk management, insurance and bankruptcy; child support, divorce and student debt; as well as related micro and macro social work practice issues.

They decided to pilot the curriculum in historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs), tribal colleges and universities (TCUs), and Hispanic-serving institutions (HSIs), Sherraden says. "We chose these institutions," she explains, "because of their outreach efforts to financially underserved minority communities with typically low levels of financial capability and assets."

"It's been rewarding to partner with these schools, to teach this curriculum — which has been extremely well received," she says. "Teams of instructors and administrators have come to Washington University for the last two years to train in the curriculum. Back on their campuses, they incorporate the FCAB content into a variety of courses."

"Financial capability includes both the ability to act ... and the opportunity to act."

ABILITY

KNOWLEDGE,
SKILLS, CONFIDENCE
AND MOTIVATION

OPPORTUNITY

ACCESS TO QUALITY
FINANCIAL PRODUCTS
AND SERVICES

Partnering with Other Teaching Institutions

Gena Gunn McClendon, project director and director of Asset Building in States and Coalitions at CSD, says working with HBCUs, TCUs and HSIs fits well with the initiative's goals.

McClendon says, "The reason has to do with making sure that schools with fewer resources have the information to give to their students — so when the students go into their professional practices, they have all the tools they need."

The initiative boasts 15 partner institutions from coast to coast, a number predicted to grow to 18 later this year. The FCAB curriculum holds great practical value not only for social work instructors and students, McClendon stresses, but also for those in disciplines such as business, public administration, architecture and urban planning, where the financial capability of served populations can play an important role.

"The bottom line is, the more we're able to connect with different departments, the better chance we have of getting this information out there," McClendon says. "One of our partner schools even used the FCAB curriculum in its freshman orientation class. Most of the faculty and administrators we've talked to view this curriculum as beneficial for all students — regardless of their field of study."



MARGARET SHERRADEN
Research professor at the Brown School, professor at the University of Missouri–St. Louis



MIKE ROCHELLE JR.
Director, Financial Capabilities & Asset Building



GENA GUNN MCCLENDON
Project director and director of Asset Building in States and Coalitions at the Center for Social Development

Curriculum Refinements

Rochelle says, "Financial education is a vibrant field right now, in both application and research. We want to make sure that social work has a voice and evidence, and that we're keeping the conversation at the table about how financial issues impact low- and moderate-income families. For us, it's about continuing to grow our partner base. To do that, we're always seeking to get interested researchers, social workers and educators in the room to talk about these critical issues."

His CSD team continues to fine-tune the FCAB curriculum, which includes a textbook now in production. "We want to raise this topic with the Council on Social Work Education and other bodies that influence the way that social work education develops," Rochelle explains.

Below: The organizing team for the 2015 A Convening on FCAB gathers with the event's keynote speaker, Camille Busette (far right).





JULIE BIRKENMAIER
Professor, St. Louis University;
Co-editor, Financial Capability
and Asset Development:
Research, Education, Policy,
and Practice



JAMI CURLEY
Associate professor,
St. Louis University; Co-editor,
Financial Capability
and Asset Development:
Research, Education, Policy,
and Practice



MELODY BRACKETT
Professor and director
of the social work
program, Elizabeth City
State University
in North Carolina

“Financial Capability Practice” Course Soon to Debut at Brown School

A new course aimed at introducing Master of Social Work students to crucial financial issues — based on the FCAB curriculum — will begin this summer at the Brown School, according to Rochelle. “Teaching the content at Brown is a natural progression of the initiative,” he says.

In addition to covering approaches that enable families to address immediate financial problems and build long-term security, the course, “Financial Capability Practice,” will address how to collaborate with institutions and individuals to generate policy and program solutions that enhance financial capability in families and communities.

“The curriculum development team worked hard to ensure that the curriculum will add an effective component to students’ day-to-day practice,” Rochelle says. “We believe it will.”



Elizabeth Miranda (left), director of the School of Social Work at the InterAmerican University of Puerto Rico, and Ramona Chavez, adjunct professor at California State University, Los Angeles, were among educators from 13 institutions at the 2014 FCAB Curriculum Workshop and Training.

There’s more to the story ...

Melody Brackett has infused the fundamentals of financial capability and asset-building into Elizabeth City State University’s Bachelor of Social Work curriculum.

🕒 To see how the FCAB curriculum is impacting students, faculty and the surrounding northeastern North Carolina community, visit brownschool.wustl.edu/SocialImpact.



FACULTY PROFESSORSHIP INSTALLATIONS



Ross C. Brownson

Ross C. Brownson, director of the Prevention Research Center and an expert in chronic disease prevention and applied epidemiology, was installed as the Bernard Becker Professor in October 2014. Brownson holds joint appointments at the Brown School and at Washington University School of Medicine.



Sean Joe

Sean Joe was installed as the Benjamin E. Youngdahl Professor of Social Development in January 2015. Joe's research focuses on African-American adolescents' mental health service use patterns, the role of religion in African-Americans' suicidal behaviors, and the development of father-focused, family-based interventions to prevent urban African-American adolescent males from engaging in self-destructive behaviors.



Amanda Moore McBride

Amanda Moore McBride was installed as the Bettie Bofinger Brown Career Development Associate Professor in May 2014. Moore McBride conducts research on programmatic forms of service, including international service, national service and service learning. She is also the director of Washington University's Gephardt Institute for Public Service.



Enola K. Proctor

Enola K. Proctor was installed in April 2014 as the Shanti K. Khinduka Distinguished Professor. Nationally recognized for her work in advancing the implementation of evidence-based practices in social service settings and a pioneer in the field of mental health services research, Proctor is director of the Center for Mental Health Services Research.



Shenyang Guo

Shenyang Guo was installed as the Frank J. Bruno Distinguished Professor of Social Work Research in November 2014. Additionally, Guo serves as assistant vice chancellor for international affairs—Greater China. The author of numerous articles on child welfare and child mental health services, he is an expert in applying advanced statistical models to solve social welfare problems.



Matthew W. Kreuter

Matthew W. Kreuter, associate dean for public health and senior scientist at the Health Communication Research Laboratory, was installed as the first Eugene S. and Constance Kahn Family Professor of Public Health in September 2014. He is a leading national public health expert in the field of health communications.



Nancy Morrow-Howell

Nancy Morrow-Howell was appointed the Bettie Bofinger Brown Distinguished Professor of Social Policy in April 2014. Morrow-Howell, one of the top social gerontologists in the profession of social work and a leader in the field of productive aging, is also director of the Harvey A. Friedman Center for Aging.



Michael Sherraden

Michael Sherraden was named the George Warren Brown Distinguished University Professor in April 2014. Sherraden is also founding director of the Center for Social Development, where much of his research focuses on asset-building to improve social and economic well-being.



YouthSave

Can youths in developing countries — many living on less than \$2.50 per day — save money and change their lives?

Five years ago, when he was a doctoral candidate at the Brown School, Ghanaian citizen David Ansong joined an international team of researchers that was seeking answers to fundamental questions about asset-building among youths in developing countries.

Now an assistant professor at the University of North Carolina, Ansong explains, “We didn’t know if our young people could save, because there had been no systematic efforts to test that. If they could save, there could be huge impacts — especially for their future education.”

As project members of YouthSave — a global consortium supported by the MasterCard Foundation that, in addition to the Center for Social Development (CSD), includes Save the Children, the World Bank’s Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP) and the New America Foundation — Ansong and his CSD colleagues have been seeking, and discovering, the answers.

In the four YouthSave project countries — Colombia, Ghana, Kenya and Nepal — researchers tracked and analyzed data to identify the financial products that were most appealing to young people between the ages of 12 and 18, documented the impact of youth savings accounts (YSAs) on these youths and their families, wrote case studies at each country site and explored the practical viability of YSAs. Over the course of the five-year study,

by Rick Skwiot

The Brown School’s Center for Social Development initiated YouthSave, the first systematic study of saving by international youths, to answer this question, and it has already paid dividends.



COLOMBIA
GHANA
KENYA
NEPAL

some 66,600 youth-funded individual savings accounts that averaged from \$9 to \$262 per account were opened — demonstrating that low-income youths will open savings accounts when financial institutions offer safe and affordable products.

Learning What Promotes Youth Saving

The research effort, now drawing to a close, required a high degree of coordination and cooperation, says Li Zou, CSD project director.

“Communication was critical, because we were working in four countries, with multiple partners in each one. In each country, we had a research organization that worked very closely with CSD, financial institutions and local field organizations. Coordinating the efforts of a wide range of people from different cultures required the willingness to see things from their perspectives,” she explains.

The principal investigator for Colombia, Margaret Sherraden, research professor at the Brown School and professor at the University of Missouri–St. Louis, adds, “YouthSave was an ambitious project, trying to promote the financial inclusion of youths, while faced with four different regulatory and banking structures. The contribution of the highly qualified local researchers in each country who collected the data and managed all these important

institutional relationships was one of the keys to the project's great success."

"One important study finding," Sherraden says, "is that parents play an important role in facilitating savings by telling young people to save for college, their future and rainy days. We also found that school administrators and teachers are a big help in promoting youth saving. Schools across all four countries have some sort of financial education curriculum or program that teaches young people a basic sense of money and personal finance, and provides space and time for savings activities."

"And the financial institutions in the four project countries cooperate by implementing a simplified savings process," continues Zou. "They lower their initial deposit requirements to encourage more children to save. Officials of the institutions go to the schools to promote the importance of saving and explain the financial products, so kids feel they are supported in the process of saving."

Just as important, researchers learned about the barriers that can prevent or deter saving by youths.

"Number one, understandably, is limited financial resources," says Zou. "For some young people, it's really a struggle to come up with money to save. They have to rely on parents, relatives or random work for money.

"Number two is the conflicting demands on youths' income — for example, school supplies, clothing, shoes and snacks — a universal phenomenon among lower-income youths.



CSD team members Michael Sherraden (first left in row two), Li Zou (fourth in row two), David Ansong (fifth in row two), Lissa Johnson (first left in row one) and Gina Chowa (third in row one) worked closely with colleagues of ISSER at the University of Ghana.

"The final obstacle is a lack of encouragement from adults or knowledge on the part of the young people. Across all four countries, we found that some youths have misunderstandings about the system that prevent them from saving," she says.

Tracking Youths' Saving Patterns and More

CSD Director of Administration Lissa Johnson has led YouthSave's assessment activities, working with the financial institutions and research partners in each country to keep track of the young people who have signed up for accounts and their savings over time.

"YouthSave's goal was to attract youths, particularly low-income youths, so it was important to know if the financial

institutions in each project country reached their target populations," says Johnson. "To track savings patterns, we looked at the deposits and withdrawals made by each account holder, as well as the types of transactions they conducted. The data set that we created is huge; as far as we know, this is the largest detailed data set on youth saving from developing countries."

That data set can play an important role in financial services in developing countries and encourage participation by youths, Johnson explains.

"If young people are left out of financial participation — and because young people are the majority population in these developing countries — a nation-building opportunity is lost, because a whole set of the population is not developing financially until they're much older," says Johnson. "With better financial socialization and safe, affordable opportunities to save, young people can make informed decisions about their money — and, as a result, about their futures."

"Across all four countries, we found that some youths have misunderstandings about the system that prevent them from saving."

LI ZOU, CSD PROJECT DIRECTOR

The bottom line, Johnson says, is to understand how saving by youths affects outcomes in their lives. An impact study underway in Ghana is designed to promote that understanding.

“Does saving allow young people to go on to high school instead of dropping out? Change their health outcomes? Affect their overall developmental outcomes? These are some of the questions that the Ghana study was designed to answer,” says Johnson.

Reflecting on the Power of International Partnerships

International partnerships are at the core of the YouthSave research, according to Michael Sherraden, the George Warren Brown Distinguished University Professor and founding director of the Center for Social Development, whose pioneering asset-building concepts formed the foundation for the project.

“The research project in Ghana,” he says, “wouldn’t have been possible without partners at the University of Ghana and the Institute of State Social and Economic Research (ISSER). I helped design the experiment, but Gina Chowa, MSW ’02, PhD ’08, assistant professor at the University of North Carolina (UNC), directs it. So, by design, this was a CSD project that was run out of the University of North Carolina and the University of Ghana. Increasingly, CSD functions in these types of national and global partnerships because we can have more impact that way.”

In Ghana’s controlled experiment, students in half of the 100 study schools were exposed by the country’s HFC Bank to either in-school banking

or to outreach marketing after which they were invited to the bank to open accounts. Although the study results have yet to be fully analyzed, Chowa says, “We found that building on existing relationships was central to our success. Our partners at the University of Ghana have served as data collectors and liaisons to the Ministry of Education.”

Chowa explains that HFC Bank’s executive in charge played an invaluable, proactive role. “He understood that this was not a near-term profit-making venture for the bank, but instead a social and corporate responsibility, and a long-term investment in the community and in building clients for life.”

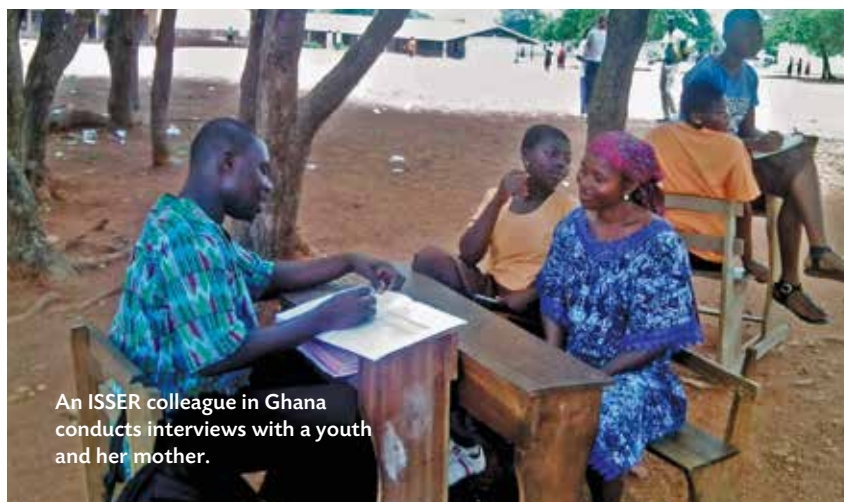
Chowa credits her colleague at UNC, David Ansong, as well. “His intimate knowledge of Ghanaian institutions and culture helped produce a research product that in the years ahead could substantively benefit his native country.”

Ansong adds, “Policymakers in Ghana have become more aware after this project. YouthSave has been critical in creating this interest and understanding at the highest levels of government.”

Similarly, policymakers in Kenya will likely be studying the ultimate YouthSave findings with great interest, according to the principal investigator in that country, Fred Ssewamala, PhD, associate professor of social work and international affairs at Columbia School of Social Work.

“Kenya is one of the leaders of financial innovation in sub-Saharan Africa,” Ssewamala says, “and reaching out to youths to get them financially involved is one of the government’s key objectives. Our in-country collaborators, Postbank and the Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA), are affiliated with the government, so when KIPPRA presents this work, government officials will definitely sit up and listen.”

The real impact of the YouthSave program in Kenya, Ssewamala emphasizes, will be fully realized and appreciated only over the long run. “One day, we’ll look back and say, ‘All these students have graduated and forever changed their lives because of the savings accounts they opened in primary and secondary school. And YouthSave made it possible.’ When they transition into adulthood, that’s when we may start seeing real, long-term impacts.”



An ISSER colleague in Ghana conducts interviews with a youth and her mother.



Allen



Auslander



Brown



Brownson



Butler-Barnes



Caburnay



Cunningham-Williams



Dodson



Drake



Duncan



Edmond



Eyler

Faculty Briefs

➔ **Peg Allen's** paper "Perceived Benefits and Challenges of Coordinated Approaches to Chronic Disease Prevention in State Health Departments" appeared in *Preventing Chronic Disease*.

➔ **Wendy Auslander** was appointed by the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare as one of the 12 fellows in its class of 2014. Auslander presented "Child Maltreatment and Health Risk Factors in Adolescent Girls Involved in Child Welfare" at the Society for Social Work and Research.

➔ **Derek Brown's** study on the economic burden of child maltreatment in East Asia and the Pacific region received UNICEF's "Best of UNICEF Research 2014" award. Brown published "Adolescent Girls' Preferences for HPV Vaccines: A Discrete Choice Experiment" in *Advances in Health Economics and Health Services Research*. He and **Timothy McBride** co-authored a paper "Impact of the Affordable Care Act on Access to Care for US Adults with Diabetes" that appeared in *Preventing Chronic Disease*.

➔ **Ross Brownson** was named by Thompson Reuters to its 2014 list of the most influential scientists in the world. One of his papers "Preventing Practice-Research Partnerships and Mentoring to Foster Evidence-Based Decision Making" appeared in *Preventing Chronic Disease*. Brownson's paper "Understanding Mis-Implementation in Public Health Practice" appeared in the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*.

➔ **Sheretta Butler-Barnes's** article "African-American Adolescents' Academic Persistence: A Strengths-Based Approach" appeared in the *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*. Butler-Barnes served on the White House STEM & CTE Conference on Marginalized Girls. Butler-Barnes was awarded a research grant by the March of Dimes for Evaluation of Baby and Me Tobacco Free Program: Missouri Pilot. She was also awarded the Arlene Stiffman Award to conduct a pilot study – Celebrating the Strengths of Black Girls.

➔ **Charlene Caburnay's** research "Evaluating Diabetes Mobile Applications for Health Literate Designs and Functionality" was published in *Preventing Chronic Disease*.

➔ **Renee Cunningham-Williams** was named one of the top African-American scholars in schools of social work according to Citation Impact Scores. She also was elected by the membership of the Society of Social Work and Research (SSWR) to the SSWR board of directors as the member-at-large.

➔ **Elizabeth Dodson** had a paper published in *Preventing Chronic Disease* titled "Everyone Should Be Able to Choose How They Get Around: How Topeka, Kansas Passed a Complete Streets Resolution."

➔ **Brett Drake** and co-author **Melissa Jonson-Reid's** chapter "Competing Values and Evidence: How Do We Evaluate Mandated Reporting and CPS Response?" appears in *Mandated Reporting Laws and Identification of Severe Child Abuse and Neglect*.

➔ **Alexis Duncan's** paper "Child Maltreatment and Diabetes: Differential Effects by Gender" was published in *Preventing Chronic Disease*. Duncan co-authored "Genetic and Environmental Risk for Major Depression in African-American and European-American Women," which appeared in *Twin Research and Human Genetics*. Duncan and **Melissa Jonson-Reid's** paper "Associations between BMI, PTSD, and Child Maltreatment in Young Women" appeared in *Child Abuse & Neglect*.

➔ **Tonya Edmond's** "Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing with Trauma Clients. Part IX: Guidelines for Specific Interventions" appears in the 2015 edition of the *Social Workers' Desk Reference*. Her article "Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR)" appears in the *Encyclopedia of Social Work* (20th edition). Edmond was recently named the associate dean for diversity.

➔ **Amy Eyler's** paper titled "Opportunity Meets Planning: An Assessment of the Physical Activity Emphasis in State Obesity-Related Plans" was published in the *Journal of Physical Activity and Health*. Eyler presented "Policy Strategies for Promoting Physical Activity" at the Institute of Medicine Roundtable on Obesity Solutions session titled "Physical Activity: Moving Toward Obesity Solutions" in Washington, D.C. Eyler, **Ross Brownson** and **Sarah Moreland-Russell** edited *Prevention Policy and Public Health* (Oxford University Press). As the Brown School's new assistant dean for public health, Eyler is also advising students and overseeing administrative aspects of the MPH program.



Fabbre



Fowler



Gehlert



Grinstein-Weiss



Guo



Haire-Joshu



Harris



Hovmand



Hudson



Iannotti



Joe



Johnson

➔ **Vanessa Fabbre** presented “Gender Transitions in Later Life: A Queer Perspective on Successful Aging” at the Gerontological Society of America Conference in Washington, D.C. Fabbre’s paper “Gender Transitions in Later Life: The Significance of Time in Queer Aging” appeared in the *Journal of Gerontological Social Work*.

➔ **Patrick Fowler** received a three-year grant from the Children’s Bureau of the Administration for Children and Families to study housing services provided through the child welfare system. Fowler published “Family Unification Program: Housing Services for Homeless Child Welfare-Involved Families” in *Housing Policy Debate* and gave this year’s keynote address to the Annual Homelessness Awareness Conference sponsored by the Missouri Governor’s Committee to End Homelessness. Fowler was awarded the National Institutes of Health Loan Repayment Program Award for Health Disparities Research.

➔ **Sarah Gehlert** was named one of the Siteman Cancer Center’s “Rock Docs.” Gehlert’s paper “Advancing Transdisciplinary Research: The Transdisciplinary Energetics and Cancer Initiative” appeared in the *Journal of Translational Medicine and Epidemiology*. As the keynote speaker at the Annual Extended Environmental Exposures Conference, Breast Cancer and the Environment Research Program (NIEHS, NCI and Avon Foundation), she presented “Capturing the Complexity of Breast Cancer.” Gehlert and **Edward F. Lawlor**’s paper “The Case for a National Health Social Work Practice-Based Research Network in Addressing Health Equity” appears in *Health & Social Work*.

➔ **Michal Grinstein-Weiss** served as guest editor for a special issue of the *Journal of Consumer Affairs* on financial education and literacy commissioned by the multiagency Financial Education and Literacy Commission, chaired by the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury. Early this year, she testified before the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging, urging U.S. senators to create long-term asset-building policies and use golden moments, including tax time, to facilitate savings opportunities for Americans. She recently received a \$1.08 million contract from the U.S. Treasury Department for research on retirement savings to investigate messaging about and interest in myRA (My Retirement) accounts. Grinstein-Weiss’s article “Family Assets and Child Outcomes: Evidence and Directions” appeared in *The Future of Children*. Grinstein-Weiss was awarded a research grant as principal investigator of the Nurture Center for Health Behavior Change Projects by Nurture Health, Inc.

➔ **Shenyang Guo** was appointed by the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare as one of the 12 fellows in its class of 2014. He was named the Frank J. Bruno Distinguished Professor of Social Work Research at the Brown School and the assistant vice chancellor for international affairs—Greater China on behalf of Washington University.

➔ **Debra Haire-Joshu** published “Cancer Prevention through Policy Interventions That Alter Childhood Disparities in Energy Balance” in *Impact of Energy Balance on Cancer Disparities*, the first major volume entirely devoted to the contributions of energy balance to cancer disparities. Haire-Joshu’s

paper “Next Steps in Eliminating Disparities in Diabetes and Obesity” appeared in *Preventing Chronic Disease*. She was also the guest editor in *Preventing Chronic Disease’s Research, Policy and Practice’s Special Collection* publication, *Diabetes Translation*, 2015.

➔ **Jenine Harris**’s article “The Diffusion of Evidence-Based Decision Making among Local Health Department Practitioners in the United States” appeared in the *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice*. Harris earned tenure this year. Harris, **Sarah Moreland-Russell** and **Rachel Tabak**’s paper “Communication about Childhood Obesity on Twitter” was published in the *American Journal of Public Health*. Harris was awarded a research grant for Improving Foodborne Illness Surveillance and Reporting through New Technology by the Washington University IPH-CDI Dissemination & Implementation Pilot Program.

➔ **Peter Hovmand** was awarded a research grant for “Understanding and Accelerating Health Care Reforms in China for Urban Migrant Workers Using Community Based System Dynamics” through the Lupina Foundation. The project focuses on understanding the implementation of policies and programs to address social determinants of health in migrant workers and their families in Shanghai, China, using system dynamics and group model building.

➔ **Darrell Hudson** received support for a study “The High Cost of Mental Health: Examining Environmental Affordances and Health Behaviors in the Pathway of Mental and Physical Health,” from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Hudson published a chapter “All That Glitters Is Not Gold: Social



Jonson-Reid



Kohl



Kreuter



Lawlor



Lesorogol



Luke



McBride



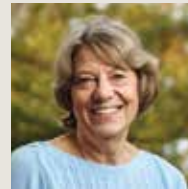
Moore McBride



Metzger



Moreland-Russell



Morrow-Howell



Pandey

Mobility, Health, and Mental Health among African-Americans" in *Financial Capability and Asset Holding in Later Life: A Life Course Perspective* (Oxford University Press, 2015). In addition, Hudson and **Sarah Gehlert** co-wrote a chapter that appears in *Race and Social Problems: Restructuring Inequality*, titled "Considering the Role of Social Determinants of Health in the Black-White Breast Cancer Disparities" (Springer, 2015).

➔ **Lora Iannotti's** paper "Linear Growth Increased among Young Children in an Urban Slum of Haiti: A Randomized Controlled Trial of a Lipid-Based Nutrient Supplement" appeared in the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*. Iannotti published "Improving Nutrition through the Production and Consumption of Milk and Eggs: A Pastoralist Case Study in Kenya" in the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization's expert paper on nutrition-sensitive food and agriculture systems. Her paper "Ready-to-Use Supplementary Food Increases Fat Mass and BMI in Haitian School-Age Children" in the *Journal of Nutrition*. Iannotti was awarded a research grant for the Lulun Egg Project: Improving Young Child Nutrition in Ecuador by The Mathile Institute.

➔ **Sean Joe** ranked third in Research on Social Work Practice's ranking of cited African-American faculty members in the top 25 schools of social work. Joe's paper "Prevalence of Suicide Ideation and Attempts among Black Americans in Later Life" appeared in *Transcultural Psychiatry*. He presented "American Suicide: Examining Race and Masculinity" at the Inaugural Dean's Distinguished Lecture at the College of Social Work, University of Kentucky.

➔ **Kim Johnson** was elected secretary of the Brain Tumor Epidemiology Consortium at the group's annual meeting in Vienna, Austria. Her article "Evaluation of Participant Recruitment Methods to a Rare Disease Online Registry" appeared in the *American Journal of Medical Genetics Part A*. Johnson was awarded the Arlene Rubin Stiffman Junior Faculty Research Award for Birth Defects and Pediatric Cancer Development.

➔ **Melissa Jonson-Reid** published "Child Maltreatment: An Environmental Pathogen?" in the *Routledge International Handbook of Biosocial Criminology*. Awarded a three-year research grant as principal investigator for Intervening in Child Neglect: A Microsimulation Evaluation Model of Usual Care by the Administration for Children and Family.

➔ **Patricia Kohl's** paper "Engaging African-American Fathers in Behavioral Parent Training: To Adapt or Not Adapt" appeared in *Best Practices in Mental Health*. Kohl received a three-year research grant for Intervening in Child Neglect: A Microsimulation Evaluation Model of Usual Care from the Children's Bureau, Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Department of Health and Human Services. She was also granted research funding for Fathers Make a Difference: A Reentry Mentoring Project by the Department of Justice. Kohl was inducted as a fellow in the Society of Social Work and Research this year.

➔ **Matthew W. Kreuter** was named by Thompson Reuters to its 2014 list of the most influential scientists in the world – identified by tabulating citations that had been

recorded during calendar year 2013. His article "What Can Health Communication Science Offer for ACA Implementation? Five Evidence-Informed Strategies for Expanding Medicaid Enrollment" appeared in the *Milbank Quarterly*. Kreuter's paper "From Evidence to Impact: Three Recommendations for a Dissemination Support System" appeared in the *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*.

➔ **Edward F. Lawlor** was elected president of the St. Louis Group. Lawlor, **Matthew W. Kreuter** and **Timothy McBride's** paper "Methodological Innovations in Public Health Education: Transdisciplinary Problem Solving" was published in the *American Journal of Public Health*.

➔ **Carolyn Lesorogol** was named associate dean for global strategy and programs. Her paper "Redefining the Meaning of Land: Property Rights and Land Use in a Privatized Commons in Kenya" was published as a chapter in *Research in Economic Anthropology*. Lesorogol also published "Gifts or Entitlements: The Influence of Property Rights and Institutions for Third-Party Sanctioning on Behavior in Three Experimental Economic Games" in *Experimenting with Social Norms: Fairness and Punishment in Cross-Cultural Perspective* (Russell Sage Foundation, 2014). Lesorogol and **Lora Iannotti's** paper "Preventative Lipid-Based Nutrient Supplements (LNS) and Young Child Feeding Practices: Findings from Qualitative Research in Haiti" appeared in *Maternal and Child Nutrition*.

➔ **Douglas Luke's** chapter "Measuring Success: An Evaluation Framework for Transdisciplinary Public Health" appeared in



Park



Patterson



Pettus-Davis



Purnell



Raghavan



Rank



Rivera-Núñez



Rosenberg



Sanders Thompson



Shabsin



Sherraden



Sherraden

Transdisciplinary Public Health: Research, Education and Practice. Luke served as a public health expert on a committee for the Institute of Medicine that produced the report “Assessing the Use of Agent-Based Models for Tobacco Regulation” to provide guidance to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration on tobacco control policy. Luke and **Sarah Moreland-Russell’s** paper “Breaking Down Silos: Mapping Growth of Cross-Disciplinary Collaboration in a Translational Science Initiative” appeared in *Clinical Translational Science*.

→ **Timothy McBride’s** chapter “The Affordable Care Act and Low-Wage Workers” was published in *Working and Living in the Shadow of Economic Fragility* (Oxford University Press, 2014), co-edited by Marion Crain and **Michael Sherraden**.

→ **Amanda Moore McBride’s** paper “Engaging Older Adult Volunteers in National Service” appeared in *Social Work Research*. McBride presented “Social Innovation Alone Will Not Fix Social Problems” at the Chronicle of Higher Education conference. She also presented “Developing a Community of Practice for International Service Learning” at International Service Learning: Toward Community Impacts, which included Northwestern University, Washington University and Duke University.

→ **Molly Metzger** published “The Re-concentration of Poverty: Patterns of Housing Voucher Use, 2000-2008” in *Housing Policy Debate*. Two new laws in St. Louis will expand housing options for Section 8 renters in the city. These measures were influenced by a policy brief and testimony by Metzger, a faculty director for inclusive housing research at the Brown School’s Center for Social

Development. Metzger’s and **Patrick Fowler’s** paper “Residential Mobility during Adolescence: Do Even Upward Moves Predict Dropout Risk?” appeared in *Social Science Research*. She published “The New Political Voice of Young Americans: Online Engagement and Civic Development among First-Year College Students” in *Education, Citizenship and Social Justice*.

→ **Sarah Moreland-Russell** was awarded a research grant for Expanding Coverage Initiative Evaluation by the Missouri Foundation for Health. Moreland-Russell, **Elizabeth Dodson** and **Ross Brownson’s** paper “‘Hearing from All Sides’—How Legislative Testimony Influences State Level Policymakers in the United States” appeared in *International Journal of Health Policy and Management*.

→ **Nancy Morrow-Howell** was elected president of The Gerontological Society of America at its 2014 annual meeting. She is the co-editor of *Financial Capability and Asset Holding in Later Life: A Life Course Perspective* (Oxford University Press, 2015). Morrow-Howell was the keynote speaker at the Next Age Institute Inaugural Event in Singapore, “Aging in Place: U.S. Perspective.” She chaired the Society for Social Work and Research Symposium and presented “The Productive Engagement of Older Adults as Volunteers.” She was awarded a research grant for Meeting the Aging Network’s Need for Volunteers: Recruiting Baby Boomer Retirement Research. Morrow-Howell and **Amanda Moore McBride’s** paper “Volunteering as a Pathway to Productive and Social Engagement among Older Adults” appeared in *Health Education and Behavior*.

→ **Shanta Pandey’s** article “Physical or Sexual Violence against Women of Childbearing Age within Marriage in Nepal: Prevalence, Causes, and Prevention Strategies” appears in *International Social Work*.

→ **David Patterson** authored a paper “Sociocultural Influences on Gambling and Alcohol Use among Native Americans in the United States” in the *Journal of Gambling Studies*. Patterson was awarded a research grant for Incorporating Data Science into Clinical Addiction Practices by Bridgeway Behavioral Health. His paper “Differential Outcomes in Agency-Based Mental Health Care between Minority and Majority Youth” appeared in *Research on Social Work Practice*.

→ **Carrie Pettus-Davis’s** paper “Acceptability of Social Support Intervention for Reentering Prisoners” was published in the *Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research*. Pettus-Davis also published “Is Positive Social Support Available to Re-Entering Prisoners? It Depends on Who You Ask” in the *Journal of Forensic Social Work*. Pettus-Davis was named the executive director of the Concordance Institute for Advancing Social Justice, a new research center committed to improving the well-being of individuals and families impacted by criminal justice system involvement. She was awarded a research grant for Strengthening Relationships between Young Fathers and Their Children as part of a reentry mentoring program titled Fathers Make a Difference by the Office of Justice Programs. Pettus-Davis will lead the Smart Decarceration Initiative sponsored by the Brown School’s Center for Social Development, University of Chicago and Washington University.



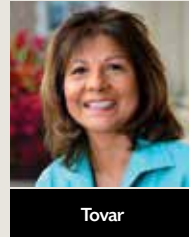
Steensma



Stiritz



Tabak



Tovar



Trani



Webber

Her co-authored concept paper “From Mass Incarceration to Smart Decarceration” was accepted as a grand challenge by the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare: Grand Challenges Initiative.

➔ **Jason Purnell** was awarded the 2014 Distinguished Young Professionals Award in the area of Health and Quality of Life Empowerment by the Urban League of Young Professionals of Metropolitan St. Louis. Purnell, **Matthew W. Kreuter** and **Timothy McBride**’s paper “Behavioral Economics: ‘Nudging’ Underserved Populations to be Screened for Cancer” appeared in *Preventing Chronic Disease*. He was awarded a two-year grant for Evaluation of the School-Based Clinic at Roosevelt High School by Boeing Corporate Citizenship and the Mercy Health Foundation. Purnell, **Amy Eylar** and **Sarah Moreland-Russell**’s paper “Outside the Exam Room: Policies for Connecting Clinic to Community in Diabetes Prevention and Treatment” appeared in *Preventing Chronic Disease*. He authored a chapter titled “Social Determinants of Health: Policy and Prevention” in *Prevention Policy and Public Health* (Oxford University Press, 2015). Purnell’s study For the Sake of All: Phase II received renewed funding by the Missouri Foundation for Health. Learn more about For the Sake of All, Purnell’s multi-disciplinary study on the health and well-being of African-Americans in St. Louis [See page 28].

➔ **Ramesh Raghavan**’s paper “Toward a Theory of Child Well-Being” was published in *Social Indicators Research*. Raghavan was also recently elected as the scientific chair of SERV. Raghavan also published “Psychotropic Drug Use among Preschool Children in the Medicaid Program from 36 States” in the *American Journal of Public Health*. He was appointed to the Ferguson Commission’s Child Well-Being and Education Equity Work Group and served at the Administration on Children and Families (ACF) in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in Washington D.C. Raghavan and **Derek Brown**’s paper “Challenges in Using Medicaid Claims to Ascertain Child Maltreatment” appeared in *Child Maltreatment*.

➔ **Mark Rank**’s chapter “Toward a New Paradigm for Understanding Poverty” was published in the *Oxford Handbook of Poverty and Society* (Oxford University Press, 2015). Rank’s paper “Why Poverty and Inequality Undermine Justice in America” appears in the *Routledge International Handbook of Social Justice* (2014). Rank edited the chapter “Challenging the Conventional Understanding of American Poverty” in the *Handbook on Race and Social Problems* (Springer Press, 2015). He wrote an essay commissioned by and published in *The New York Times* titled “From Rags to Riches to Rags.” Rank also presented the keynote “Chasing the American Dream” at the Berkeley Social Welfare Seabury Address.

➔ **Zorimar Rivera-Núñez** was awarded a two-year research grant by March of Dimes for Evaluation of Baby and Me Tobacco Free Program: Missouri Pilot. Rivera-Núñez’s paper “Cadmium and Arsenic Exposure and Bladder Cancer in Southeastern Michigan” appeared in the *International Journal of Hygiene and Environmental Health*.

➔ **Barry Rosenberg** launched “CEO Seminar: Building a High-Performance Fundraising Culture,” a yearlong executive education program for St. Louis area human service CEOs.

➔ **Vetta Sanders Thompson** published “Identifying Key Variables in African-American Adherence to Colorectal Cancer Screening: The Application of Data Mining” in *BMC Public Health*. In addition, her article “A Community Coalition to Address Cancer Disparities: Transitions, Successes and Challenges” appeared in the *Journal of Cancer Education*. Sanders Thompson and **Enola Proctor**’s paper “Use of Culturally Focused Theoretical Frameworks for Adaptations of Diabetes Prevention Programs: A Qualitative Review” was published in *Preventing Chronic Disease*. She, **Janine Harris** and **Jason Purnell** published “Broadening the Examination of Sociocultural Constructs Relevant to African-American Colorectal Cancer Screening” in *Psychology, Health & Medicine*.

➔ **Anna Shabsin** was appointed to the statewide board of directors of PROMO, Missouri’s statewide organization advocating for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender equality through legislative action, electoral politics, grassroots organizing and community education.

➔ **Margaret Sherraden** and **Michal Grinstein-Weiss** were guest editors for *Creating Financial Capability in the Next Generation: An Introduction to the Special Issue by Journal of Consumer Affairs*. She and **Michael Sherraden** published “Financial Capability and Asset Building for All” for the American Academy of Social Work and Welfare: Grand Challenges Initiative.

➔ **Michael Sherraden** received the 2015 Richard Lodge Prize from the Adelphi University School of Social Work, recognizing the extraordinary scope and transformative impact of Sherraden’s contributions to social policy and social work practice. Sherraden’s and Marion Crain’s new book, *Working and Living in the Shadow of Economic Fragility* (Oxford University Press, 2014), is a product of the Livable Lives initiative. Sherraden is also founding director of the Next Age Institute, a program of the McDonnell International Scholars Academy that, in collaboration with the National University of Singapore, will address the global challenges facing many families and communities, including aging populations and rising inequality. Sherraden gave a public lecture marking the 50th Anniversary of Singapore, National University of Singapore, “Fifty Years of Social Innovation: Reflections on Singapore’s Social Policies.”

➔ **Joseph Steensma** gave a TEDx Gateway Arch Talk titled “Birds, Biology and Business: One Man’s Journey from the Backwoods to the Board Room... and How Birds Led Him There.” He was also appointed the scholar in residence at the Global Good Fund.



Wells



Yadama

→ **Susan Stiritz's** paper "Legal Education Gone Wild: Law and Literature and Sex" was published in *Studies in Law, Politics, and Society*.

→ **Rachel Tabak** published "What Predicts Dissemination Efforts among Public Health Researchers in the United States?" in *Public Health Reports*. Tabak and Ross Brownson's paper "Workplace Social and Organizational Environments and Healthy-Weight Behaviors" appeared in *PLoS One*. Her paper, co-authored with **Amy Eyler, Elizabeth Dodson** and **Ross Brownson**, "Assessing Evidence to Inform Public Health Policy: A Study to Enhance Advocacy" appeared in *Public Health*. She also had a paper co-authored with **Sarah Moreland-Russell** and **Ross Brownson**, "Assessing

Capacity for Sustainability of Effective Programs and Policies in Local Health Departments" published in the *Journal of Public Health Management Practice*.

→ **Molly Tovar** received a three-year Mental and Behavioral Health Education and Training for Professionals and Paraprofessionals grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Tovar and **David Patterson's** paper "Toward a Culturally Informed Rehabilitation Treatment Model for American Indian/Alaska Native Veterans" in the *Journal of Social Work in Disability and Rehabilitation—Special Issue*.

→ **Jean-Francois Trani** was awarded a research grant for Impact Evaluation of an Employment Support Intervention for Vulnerable People in Afghanistan by the Swedish International Development Agency and Swedish Committee of Afghanistan. Trani's paper "Mental Illness, Poverty and Stigma in India: A Case Control Study" was published in *British Medical Journal Open*.

→ **Hank Webber** published a white paper "Rebound Neighborhoods in Older Industrial Cities: The Story of St. Louis" for the Center for Social Development.

Webber was the keynote speaker at the Community Builders Network Awards Reception in St. Louis.

→ **Anjanette Wells** wrote a chapter "Cancer Disparities" that appears in the *Handbook of Oncology Social Work: Psychosocial Care for People with Cancer* (Oxford University Press, 2015). Wells also published an article "African-American Breast Cancer Survivors Participating in a Support Group: Translating Research into Practice" in the *Journal of Cancer Education*.

→ **Gautam N. Yadama** was named assistant vice chancellor for international affairs—India on behalf of Washington University. Yadama is the lead researcher in collaboration with ACTED, Tajikistan for the Obstacles and Opportunities for Effective Community Involvement in Health Care Governance study funded by Aga Khan Foundation Canada's Central Asia Health Systems Strengthening (CAHSS) project. He is also the lead faculty in the project Harnessing Big Data for Environment, Livelihoods, and Population Well-Being in India, funded by the Office of the Provost at Washington University.

Brown School welcomes six new faculty

VANESSA FABBRE, PHD, LCSW
Assistant Professor

Fabbre's research explores the intersection of LGBTQ issues and gerontology, focusing specifically on transgender and queer perspectives on aging and the life course. She teaches courses in social, economic and political environment, social justice and human diversity, and direct social work practice.

SHENYANG GUO, PHD
Frank J. Bruno Distinguished Professor of Social Work Research; Assistant Vice Chancellor for International Affairs—China

Guo is a fellow of the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare, and the Society of Social Work and Research. He has expertise in applying advanced statistical models to solving social welfare problems.

SEAN JOE, PHD, MSW
Benjamin E. Youngdahl
Professor of Social Development

Joe has been honored by the American Association of Suicidology for his research on suicidal behavior among African-Americans. His current work focuses on fostering an evidence base for effective practice with African-Americans boys and young men.

SOJUNG PARK, PHD
Assistant Professor

Park has years of experience in social work research, practice, and the central government in the area of health and welfare in Korea. She is interested in uncovering ways to identify individuals who may be at risk for lack of well-being, nursing home institutionalization and mortality.

BARRY ROSENBERG, MSW
Professor of Practice and Faculty Chair,
MSW Management Specialization

Following a 37-year career in non-profit management, Rosenberg teaches courses in board governance, leadership and organizational behavior. This year he launched the CEO Seminar Series to provide executive education for nonprofit leaders.

JOSEPH STEENSMA, MPH, EDD
Professor of Practice, Public Health
and Social Entrepreneurship

Steensma teaches courses in biostatistics, environmental health and entrepreneurship. He is also helping the School to commercialize the innovative products and services developed here.



Q+A

Morrow-Howell's Up Close and Personal Perspective on Aging Research

Nancy Morrow-Howell is the Bettie Bofinger Brown Distinguished Professor of Social Policy at the Brown School and director of the Harvey A. Friedman Center for Aging in the Institute for Public Health. A member of the faculty at the Brown School since 1987, Morrow-Howell is a national leader in gerontology, elected president of The Gerontological Society of America, and widely known for her work on productive aging and civic engagement of older adults. In a recent interview, she answered questions about her work, how the field of aging has changed, and new opportunities for researchers and practitioners.

YOU'RE CO-TEACHING A COURSE FOR UNDERGRADUATES CALLED "WHEN I'M SIXTY-FOUR: TRANSFORMING YOUR FUTURE." WHAT FEEDBACK ARE YOU GETTING FROM STUDENTS?

NMH Our course at Washington University is one of the few that focuses on freshmen — to set the stage for not just their academic



Morrow-Howell

work, but their personal lives as well. We take two approaches. One is personal. We deal with how today's college freshmen can save enough money to last until they're 90. How will they change their communities so they can maximize their chances of living where they want to? How are they going to be caregivers when their parents need help?

We also focus on the professional side. In this country, we need to populate a number of different professions to focus on the aging population.

The theme for the course is "Aging: It's personal. It's professional. It's your future. Transform it." They'd better get a handle on this — or they'll be living with the same outdated social and physical structures we're dealing with now.

HOW HAS THE FIELD CHANGED?

NMH We've always "medicalized" aging, seeing it almost as a disease. In the beginning, we studied nearly everything negative about aging, from nursing homes to depression to incontinence — and rightly so. These are big problems for many older people. But people finally began to realize that those issues don't define the older population. So we began to study older adults in new ways. We looked at how they're working longer and are more involved in community engagement and volunteerism. The tenor has changed to focus on the whole picture of aging, not just the negative aspects of aging. It's been quite transformative.

WHAT IS THE MISSION OF THE HARVEY A. FRIEDMAN CENTER FOR AGING?

NMH The Friedman Center focuses on a wide variety of issues of aging and older adults. Its position in the Institute for Public Health provides a new perspective for aging, as there are public health issues, such as age-friendly communities and healthy lifestyles for older adults, which are important to keep in mind when we think about aging societies.

Our job at the center is to create exposure for all the aging research being conducted across the university, and to increase that research, classes and other projects.

"The tenor has changed to focus on the whole picture of aging, not just the negative aspects of aging."

NANCY MORROW-HOWELL



Dean Edward F. Lawlor and Nancy Morrow-Howell

“There’s so much right now that’s in transition, which makes it a really interesting time to be studying gerontology and aging.”

We also have an international mission. Chancellor Wrighton is dedicated to developing scholarship in international aging through the McDonnell International Scholars Academy Global Energy and Environment Partnership, and we’re working with the 28 McDonnell Academy partner institutions to develop cross-national aging research and education.

WHAT PROJECTS ARE YOU WORKING ON NOW?

NMH As we’re moving from a deficit perspective on aging to an asset- and strength-based perspective, one part of that has been the development of a national movement called Encore. The aim of this movement is to use the skills of older adults to help improve communities. The Brown School was selected by an organization called Encore.org as one of the few places in the country to host an Encore fellow to promote the idea of socially meaningful work in the later part of life. The Brown School’s program is called Next Move and is

focused on providing advice, training and support to older adults seeking an encore career.

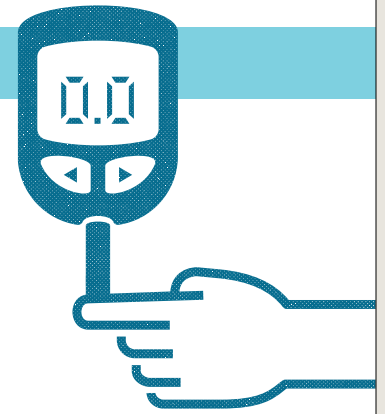
HOW HAS YOUR VIEW OF AGING AND AGING RESEARCH CHANGED AS YOU’VE GOTTEN OLDER?

NMH It’s certainly interesting for me to be experiencing what I have studied. I started studying gerontology and aging in my 20s at Berkeley. Now that I’m 63, it’s funny to be walking the walk — just like everyone eventually

will. Aging is one of the few areas of study where, if you’re lucky to have a long life, you’ll experience what you research. I’ve appreciated the insights I’ve gotten about some of the topics as I’ve begun to experience them, not just myself but also with my family members.

WHY STUDY AGING? WHAT DO WE AS A SOCIETY GAIN FROM RESEARCHING THE AGING PROCESS?

NMH Scientists have long been trying to understand biological aging, but the psychological and social aspects of aging are in transformation right now. We’ve constructed some of our visions and attitudes about aging. Humans invented that 65 is some magic line, and you’re suddenly “old” after that. We’ve never before lived 20 or 30 years after we got dubbed “older.” There’s so much right now that’s in transition, which makes it a really interesting time to be studying gerontology and aging.



→ New Collection of Papers Addresses Diabetes and Obesity Prevention Strategies

In 2014, the Washington University Center for Diabetes Translation Research (WU-CDTR) and the university's Institute for Public Health partnered on an event called "Next Steps in Public Health: Eliminating Population-Based Disparities in Diabetes and Obesity."

This conference brought together dozens of researchers from a variety of disciplines across Washington University and partner institutions for a day of brainstorming and discussion to develop a series of papers intended to inform real-world approaches to diabetes and obesity prevention.

These papers were published in the May 7, 2015, issue of *Preventing Chronic Disease*. The collection features the work of 43 researchers representing 15 disciplines and five institutions across the country.

THE PCD ARTICLES COVER 3 MAJOR TOPICS:

1

contextual risk factors

2

environment and policy issues

3

the emerging evidence base for effective interventions

An editorial by the group's leader, Debra Haire-Joshu, Joyce Wood Professor and director of the Center for Diabetes Translation Research, outlining the Next Steps project and a dozen articles addressing issues surrounding the prevention of diabetes and obesity, are included in this collection.



Haire-Joshu

As Haire-Joshu notes in her editorial, "These articles document research across various stages of development and inform

implementation of evidence-based practices across high-risk populations.

"We anticipate that these articles will provide practitioners with evidence and leverage points for their efforts in controlling diabetes and obesity. Articles in the collection cover three major topics: contextual risk factors, environment and policy issues, and the emerging evidence base for effective interventions."

43 researchers representing **15** disciplines and **5** institutions across the country collaborated on a collection of **12** articles in *Preventing Chronic Disease*.

▶ The articles can be viewed online cdc.gov/pcd/issues/2015/15_0102.htm.

The ACA Shows Big Potential to Help Americans with Diabetes

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) has great potential to improve health and health care for people with diabetes.

“Our findings showed that from 2011 through 2012, shortly after passage of the ACA, nearly 2 million working-age adults with diabetes lacked health insurance,” says Derek Brown, assistant professor and health economist at the Brown School.

“We also showed that access to care was a significant barrier among this population, and that proper diabetes care lagged among the uninsured on all indicators.”

The study, *Impact of the Affordable Care Act on Access to Care for U.S. Adults With Diabetes, 2011-2012*, was published in the journal *Preventing Chronic Disease*.



Brown



McBride

“To the extent that the ACA increases access and coverage, uninsured people with diabetes are likely to significantly increase their health care use, which may lead to reduced incidence of diabetes complications and improved health,” says Timothy McBride, co-author of the study and a professor and health economist at the Brown School.

Brown and McBride examined demographics, access to care, health care use and health care expenditures of adults with diabetes ages 19-64 by using the 2011 and 2012 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey.

They found that uninsured adults reported poorer access to care than insured adults, such as having a usual source of health care and having lower rates of utilization of six key diabetes preventive-care services. Insured adults with diabetes were found to have significantly higher health care expenditures than uninsured adults.

“Previous published work has shown that the uninsured face significant barriers to obtaining health care and face higher out-of-pocket health care costs than the insured,” McBride says. “In addition, the uninsured can experience health problems as a result of the lack of access to medical care. Although much research has focused on the general uninsured population, few studies have focused on the population with diabetes.”

IN 2012,
29.1
MILLION
AMERICANS
had diabetes,

contributing
an estimated
\$245
BILLION
TO U.S.
HEALTH CARE
COSTS.

The objective of this study, Brown said, was to gauge the potential impact of the ACA on improving diabetes care through improved health care access by comparing health care access and health outcomes of a large national sample of insured and uninsured adults with diabetes.

“Our results provide a straightforward comparison of the gap between the insured and uninsured before health care reform, providing insights about how indicators for these two groups may converge in coming years,” Brown says.



For the Sake of All

Now is the time for action.

Having spent much of the last two years working on engaging key stakeholders in the community and developing a comprehensive report on the health and well-being of African-Americans in St. Louis, Jason Purnell and his For the Sake of All team have moved into the proactive phase of the multidisciplinary project.

FOR THE SAKE OF ALL

“From the beginning, we wanted this project to influence the conversation on the health of both the African-American community and the broader community, focusing not just on health but also education and economics,” says Purnell, assistant professor in the Brown School and lead researcher on the project.

“We are incredibly proud of the final report we released in May 2014, which outlined the current state of African-Americans’ health, education and neighborhood resources in St. Louis.”

For the Sake of All focuses on factors such as poverty, housing and education because interventions that address these factors have the greatest potential to improve health. Though laying out the issues was a huge part of the overall plan, Purnell and his team knew that was only half the battle.

Drawing on the research findings in the final report of the project’s initial phase, the team has begun the process of developing an action timetable for the proposals outlined in the report.

PROJECT GOALS

- To inform by continuing to present data and information to the public and policy makers.
- To engage by enlisting community input and facilitating action to implement recommended policy and programmatic changes.
- To activate key policy and decision makers in the public and private sectors to enact policy

recommendations and bring effective interventions to scale.

➤ To evaluate through careful measurement of the impact and replicability of promising local approaches as well as For the Sake of All project activities.

The second phase, which began last fall, focuses on engagement of the community, business leaders and policymakers to mobilize support for implementation of recommendations made in the initial phase of the work.

RECOMMENDATIONS ARE:

- 1 investing in quality early childhood development
- 2 creating economic opportunities for low- to moderate-income families
- 3 investing in coordinated school health
- 4 investing in mental health awareness, access and surveillance
- 5 investing in health-promoting neighborhoods
- 6 enhancing chronic and infectious disease prevention and management.

“Neighborhood quality, education and financial resources play important roles in shaping our health. While most Americans believe that all people should have the opportunity to make choices that will help them to live healthy lives, studies show that living in a neighborhood with high poverty makes being healthy much harder.”

DISCUSSION GUIDE: CREATING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY FOR LOW- TO MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES IN ST. LOUIS, FOR THE SAKE OF ALL



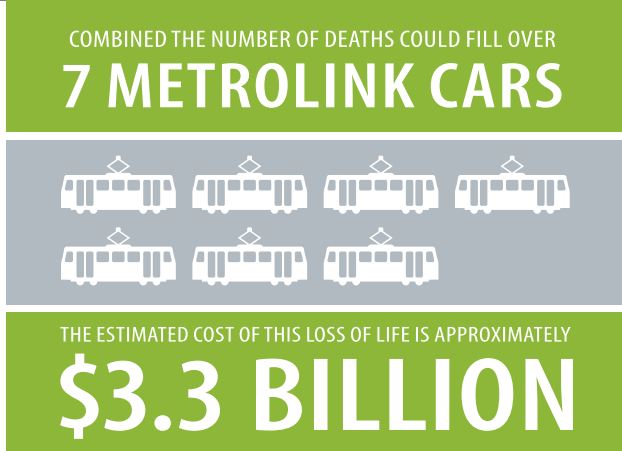
Purnell

“This is a crucial time for the St. Louis region, and it is our hope that For the Sake of All offers both objective information and a constructive way of responding to the challenges that we face,” Purnell says.

The project team, in partnership with FOCUS St. Louis, will host a Community Action Forum and publish a Discussion Guide and Action Toolkit set for each recommendation.

The first of these toolkits focuses on creating economic opportunity for low- to moderate-income families and youths. The guides outline strategies for creating economic opportunities, such as helping to make college a reality for children, making financial advice and services easily accessible to families at all income levels, and developing job training programs.

The second concentrates on early childhood development in partnership with Parents as Teachers. Strategies include increasing the availability of high-quality early childhood programs and improving access to these



The example above shows the annual impact that social and economic factors – such as poverty and low levels of education – have on health outcomes in the St. Louis region, based on 2011 data.

programs for all families, regardless of race or income, as well as improving the quality of existing programs.

The third set of discussion and action toolkits highlights the importance of investing in coordinated school health, a model for improving students’ health and well-being, which can improve academic success by reducing absenteeism and dropout rates. Additionally, investing in youth development programs provides young people with opportunities to develop positive relationships with others, supports

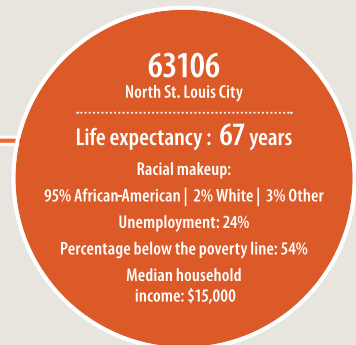
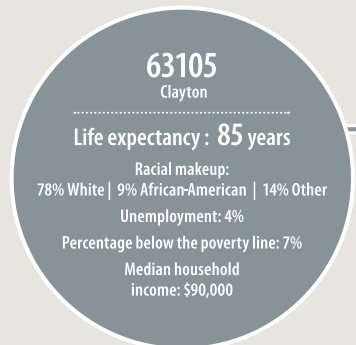
social and emotional development, and prevents risky behavior.

For the Sake of All, which is partially funded by the Missouri Foundation for Health, partnered with the St. Louis County Library system to help further promote its recommendations.

“This partnership allows us to expand the reach of For the Sake of All and provide valuable data and recommendations for moving our region forward,” Purnell says. “We hope that this partnership will be a catalyst and support as our community continues to find ways to come together around issues of equity and opportunity.”

FortheSakeofAll.org

A tale of two ZIP codes



Sources: City of St. Louis Department of Health-Center for Health Information, Planning and Research; Census 2010; Missouri Department of Health and Human Services, Death MICA 2010.



Study: "Twitter Bomb" Undermined Health Department Campaign

Tweets may misrepresent public opinion on health issues.

Jenine Harris, associate professor, looked at the Chicago Department of Public Health's (CDPH) use of Twitter in a recent study.

"Twitter reaches groups not widely reached by traditional media, and its use is growing in the U.S. and globally," Harris says. "Tweets from reputable sources that include high-quality information tend to spread, providing public health organizations a great opportunity to facilitate the dissemination of quality health information to groups not typically reached by traditional media."

But some study findings have shown that Twitter can also be used to spread false or misleading information.

In January 2014, the Chicago City Council scheduled a vote to allow electronic cigarettes to be regulated as tobacco products. One week before the vote, the CDPH released a series of messages about the harmful effects of electronic cigarettes through its Twitter account.



89.2%

OF RELEVANT TWEETS WERE AGAINST THE PROPOSED POLICY.

AMONG ANTI-POLICY TWEETS:



More than half were about the use of electronic cigarettes for cessation as a healthier alternative to traditional tobacco cigarettes.



Just over one-third asserted that the health department was lying or disseminating propaganda.

Shortly after the tweets were released, the CDPH's Twitter account became the target of a "Twitter bomb," with Twitter users sending more than 600 tweets against the proposal in a single week.

Harris's analysis of the CDPH's Twitter data, "Tweeting for and Against Public Health Policy: Response to the Chicago Department of Public Health's Electronic Cigarette Twitter Campaign," was published last fall in the *Journal of Medical Internet Research*. The study's co-authors included Sarah Moreland-Russell, research assistant professor for the Center for Public Health Systems Science; Brown School students Mackenzie Staub, MSW/MPH '15 and Kendall Simmons, MPH '15; and colleagues at the Chicago Department of Public Health.

After collecting all the tweets in the week leading up to the vote that mentioned the CDPH's position, the researchers did a content analysis to identify tweet topics and users prominent in the conversation. The analysis of the data showed clearly that the CDPH's health message was undermined by a coordinated campaign from outside the city — a campaign whose message was in stark contrast to the prevailing local sentiment on the issue of electronic cigarettes, which supported the proposal.



Harris

Harris cautions that "public health professionals should be aware of these sorts of coordinated responses to controversial

topics, and recognize that the sentiment expressed on Twitter and other forms of social media may not be that of their local constituency."



Bettie Schroth Johnson SCHOLARSHIP

IN SOCIAL SERVICE MANAGEMENT

Leadership and management skills are essential to maximize social worker impact.

To make change on a large scale, invest in change-makers. That was the thinking of James Lee Johnson Jr., when he created an endowed scholarship for the Bettie Schroth Johnson Scholarship in Social Service Management in 1986.

A trustee for 23 years at Washington University and a former chairman of both the university's Student Affairs National Council and the Brown School National Council, Johnson designed the endowed scholarship to provide each recipient with \$30,000 in annual scholarship funding as well as specialized training and networking opportunities through the MSW program. Since the inception of the program, almost 100 scholarships have been awarded.

Above, Bettie Schroth Johnson (second from right) meets with the 2013 incoming class of "Betties": Jessie Washington, Margaret Hughes, Elizabeth McClain, Shikha Mittal and Laura Sandoval.

"To make change on a large scale, invest in change-makers."

JAMES LEE JOHNSON JR.

Johnson and Shanti Khinduka, then dean of the Brown School, envisioned a program that would emphasize management training for women social workers. Johnson named the scholarship in honor of his wife, Bettie Schroth Johnson, who is also a former Brown School National Council member.

"My husband felt strongly about empowering women, and, as a businessman, he knew the importance of leadership and management," Schroth Johnson says. James Lee Johnson Jr., who passed away in 1996, is remembered for his foresight in identifying an area of social work for which the Brown School has become well known.

At the end of the first semester each year, Schroth Johnson meets for lunch with the first-year "Betties" — as the scholarship recipients are affectionately called — to discuss their experiences at the Brown School and their plans for the future. She also receives reports from

alumnae about how their career paths have unfolded: unexpected connections, exciting promotions, touchstone achievements and cross-country moves.

“Being a Bettie quite literally allowed me to do what I love and follow my dreams,” says Marissa Badgley, MSW '13. “The Brown School and the Bettie Schroth Johnson scholarship gave me the opportunity to stand out, to identify and cultivate my strengths. It propelled me into the world ready and able to make a difference.”

Many Betties have ascended to the highest levels of leadership in social

service agencies around the country. Some have achieved in academia, publishing widely and leading research centers. And others have found their way to related fields such as law, human resources, public health and medicine.

“That the Betties take such varied paths,” Schroth Johnson says, “is a credit to the Brown School and the interdisciplinary preparation that leads to success in such broad ways. Each year I’m blown away by the commitment and enthusiasm of these women and the impacts they go on to make when they leave the School.”



Sandra Jean Wilkie

MSW '91

Director of Research and Evaluation, Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative

Sandra Jean Wilkie has spent her career protecting and supporting children and youths from a variety of roles. In her current role with the Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative, Wilkie helps advocate for policies that support young people across the U.S. in successfully transitioning from foster care to adulthood.

“I feel fortunate to have been in positions where I could make significant contributions to the functioning of organizations — small and large, public and private — as well as to their missions,” Wilkie says. “I spent much of my career at the mezzo and macro levels, but it was my direct social work service that was foundational. It grounded and inspired me.”

The Brown School, Wilkie explains, helped her develop a deeper understanding of the powerful changes that can be achieved by reforming policies, practices and systems.

“Being a Bettie solidified my career commitment to social service administration and management.”

“The Brown School and the Bettie Schroth Johnson scholarship gave me the opportunity to stand out, to identify and cultivate my strengths. It propelled me into the world ready and able to make a difference.” MARISSA BADGLEY



Ashley Jones, Rebecca Dougherty, Elizabeth Myers and Jennifer Fantroy thank Bettie Schroth Johnson (center) at a November 2014 luncheon. Not pictured: Jennifer Dille.



Sharon Johnson

MSW '92, PHD '99, MPE '02

Professor, BSW Program Director and Director, Center for Family Research and Policy, School of Social Work, University of Missouri–St. Louis

As a professor, Sharon Johnson has a broad impact on the field of social work: on the students she teaches, on the Bachelor of Social Work program she directs, and on the practitioners she informs through her research. She makes regular use of the leadership training she received as a Bettie Schroth Johnson scholar.

Johnson's current research focuses on the mental health and social functioning of African-Americans, adolescents and urban populations. "The results of my work have made a substantial impact," she says, "within both the scientific community and the community at large."

Johnson's work also addresses the efficiency of the agencies and programs that provide services to those populations. She conducts agency evaluations, advising on ways to improve programming for their clients, and she also teaches program evaluation to social work students.

"Being a Bettie helped me appreciate the intricacies that go into making an agency or program sustainable," Johnson says. "My experience at the Brown School informed the way I train this generation of practitioners for their future work within agencies."



Charita Libao Castro-Gonzalves

MSW '99, PHD

Chief of Policy and Research; Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor and Human Trafficking; Bureau of International Labor Affairs; U.S. Department of Labor

Charita Libao Castro-Gonzalves is passionate about eliminating the worst forms of child labor — especially by using data and research to raise awareness of those issues in the most objective way. "Sometimes it's easy to go for the story that pulls at one's heartstrings, but it also has to be based on solid research," she says.

Castro-Gonzalves, who began her work within the Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor and Human Trafficking as a research analyst, now manages a team of more than 20. The office analyzes worker rights trends and policy reforms across at least 150 countries to compile annual reports on child labor and forced labor, including one of the U.S. government's preeminent reports on human rights. Castro-Gonzalves previously served as an assistant professor at the Brown School.

"Every day, I feel proud to represent the social work profession in the policy realm. I make sure the MSW appears on my business card, because I want others to know that my training is grounded in the social work code of ethics. I'm very proud to have recruited other Brown School alumni into this field."



Marissa Badgley

MSW '13

Program Director, MS ExTRA, The Child Center of NY

Driven to implement and evaluate high-quality programming for underserved youths, Marissa Badgley created an individualized concentration in Management of Youth-Serving Organizations.

"Through my course work, I learned so much that directly influences my practice today as a nonprofit manager and youth development professional," Badgley says. "The greatest lessons came from the people I met and the professors who took time to nurture me outside the classroom. And being a Bettie was the proverbial icing on the cake."

Following graduation, Badgley was hired as a program director with The Child Center of NY, responsible for managing an extended-school-day program called MS ExTRA (Middle School Expanded Day + Tutoring = Reading Achievement). She trains and leads a staff of 25, in addition to managing the administrative and financial components of the program.

"My professional goal is to make sure that young people in our country have access to high-quality programming that expands their learning about themselves and understanding of the world."

HONORING + SHARING Traditional Ways

by Mary Ellen Benson

Buder Center students broaden their skill sets while taking the lead on the Center's signature events.

For nearly 25 years, the Kathryn M. Buder Center for American Indian Studies has trained American Indian social work students to provide critical social work services in Indian Country or to American Indian/Native Alaskan people. Over that quarter century, 100 Buder Scholars and 37 additional American Indian students have graduated from the Brown School.

The School has recently added an American Indian concentration to the curriculum, which dovetails with many students' interests. Along with their coursework and practica, these students have gained experience producing signature events on behalf of the Buder Center, says Molly Tovar, the Center's director and professor of practice at the Brown School.

Pow Wow

This spring the oldest of these events, the annual Pow Wow, had its 25th presentation, titled "Honoring Our Elders: Healing Our People Through Tradition." Tovar says, "This event

Signature Events



Annual Pow Wow



Two Spirits Workshop



Hunt. Fish. Gather.

has become a very significant, widely known Pow Wow throughout the United States."

Buder Scholars are responsible for all aspects of the Pow Wow, Tovar says. "Along the way, they learn teamwork, fundraising, budget planning and many other skills that they can transfer to the workplace." She points to the \$20,000 raised for the latest Pow Wow as a testimony to the students' skills, energy and commitment.

Two Spirits Workshop

In 2014, Buder Scholars collaborated with other Washington University student groups to host the Two Spirits Interdisciplinary LGBT Workshop. The goal, Tovar says, was "to increase awareness and understanding in the university and St. Louis communities of both LGBT individuals and issues related to traditional Native people."

Native people, Tovar explains, embrace "two-spirit people," their term for LGBT individuals, whom their cultures have always honored and revered. The workshop, which was widely praised by participants, was so successful that the students decided to host a workshop annually.

Matthew Frank, MSW/MPH '16 candidate, was a co-organizer of the inaugural Two Spirits workshop and of the second workshop held this spring.



Buder Scholar alumni use their training to make significant contributions to Indian Country.

“The rewarding part is being able to not only share my personal stories, which reflect Two-Spirit identity, but also to help people learn the concept,” Frank says. “Two Spirits is a historical reminder that all of our tribes had multiple genders. We were known by the roles we played in our community, not by our genders.”

With Tovar’s guidance, the Buder Scholars have established the groundwork for a meaningful annual event that is reshaping Washington University students’ understanding of Native cultures and LGBT issues.

Hunt. Fish. Gather.

Another new, university-wide annual event — Hunt. Fish. Gather. — began in 2014, when students who wanted traditional food to be made available in the university’s dining halls approached Tovar. She asked them to write a concept paper and helped them put out a call for proposals inviting a Native chef to stage a

cooking demonstration and work with WUSTL Dining Services chefs. The student group wanted to showcase healthy traditional foods and help people take control of their diets.

The students selected Chef Nephi Craig, founder of the Native American Culinary Association, for the presentation. Since then, three Native dishes have been added to the menu at Ibbey’s, a Washington University cafe, and Chef Craig returned in April 2015 hoping to increase the availability of Native dishes on campus.

Miquela Taffa, MSW/MPH ‘16 candidate, who helped plan the 2015 Hunt. Fish. Gather. event, attended a conference in Albuquerque with Tovar. She learned to write an Institutional Review Board request in order to collect data at the event and evaluate whether the concept is impactful and replicable.

“I’d like to see this concept in Indian Country itself,” Taffa says. “But I also want to see the impact of our efforts to take control of our lives here on

campus. The most rewarding part is the event itself, where we share knowledge about pre-Columbian cuisine and the expanding number of Native dishes on [WUSTL dining services provider] Bon Appétit menus.”

Tovar is thrilled at the students’ initiative and willingness to take ownership of their ideas. “These students are getting an experience that’s very different from that of the typical MSW student,” says Tovar.

“Because they’re showing leadership beyond their academic work and practice, they’re broadening their skill sets and enhancing the value they’ll bring to their workplaces and their client relationships when they leave the Brown School.”

MOLLY TOVAR





Hillman Hall

As part of their commitment to ensure the future of social work, public health and public policy programming at the Brown School, Tom and Jennifer Hillman, both Washington University alumni, have made a gift to help fund the completion of a new building, named in their honor. Hillman Hall will dramatically increase space for teaching, research and community engagement, and will stand as an emblem of sustainability for both the Brown School and Washington University. The building, which will open later this year, is on track to receive the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED Platinum certification.



“One of the hardest things in life, when we have accomplished nearly everything we’ve wanted in our careers, is figuring out how to move from success to significance,” says Tom Hillman.

Through this generous gift, the Hillmans have directed their entrepreneurial spirit to help build a better future for the St. Louis region and beyond.

“To me, the Brown School represents the heart and soul of the university,” says Jennifer Hillman. “I am excited by the School’s initiatives and research projects aimed at improving people’s lives. When I think of the complex problems our society faces, I see those at the Brown School doing a significant amount to solve them.”

“We are thrilled with this investment in our school, and are looking forward to this partnership with Tom and Jennifer Hillman,” says Edward F. Lawlor, dean and the William E. Gordon Distinguished Professor. “They are committed to our community, substantively interested in the work of the School and have great passion and energy for creating social impact. Their leadership and commitment are a great match with the Brown School.”

Above, inset: Jennifer and Tom Hillman



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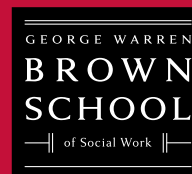
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SAVE THE DATE

OCTOBER 2, 2015

Hillman Hall Dedication

A new era for the
Brown School at Washington
University. Learn more at
growleadchange.wustl.edu



*to Grow.
to Lead.
to Change.*