

CSWEI'S PURPOSE:

- Educate social work students with the skills necessary to provide high quality and effective services to at risk populations,
- Screen, assess, treat, and/or refer clients, and
- Facilitate access to care for underserved, vulnerable population groups.



“Some internships are designed for the agency to get the most out of the intern. I believe this program puts the intern right up there with agency and makes certain you are prepared when you walk out the door and into a career.”

EA, MSW intern

“Using the skills I learned made me more comfortable and competent. It may be the best training for the MSW program.”

JS, MSW intern

“You are able to tailor your experience to what you want to do in your career. I am able to work in a rural area and see how integrated care is used.”

AS, MSW intern

“This program allows you to work at various locations so you don't have just one internship, you have a variety of opportunities to learn the resources and network.”

NG, MSW intern

FOR MORE INFORMATION

You may call the UNCG Department of Social Work at 336-334-5147 or visit our website: <https://hhs.uncg.edu/wordpress/swk/cswei/cswei-partnership-project/>



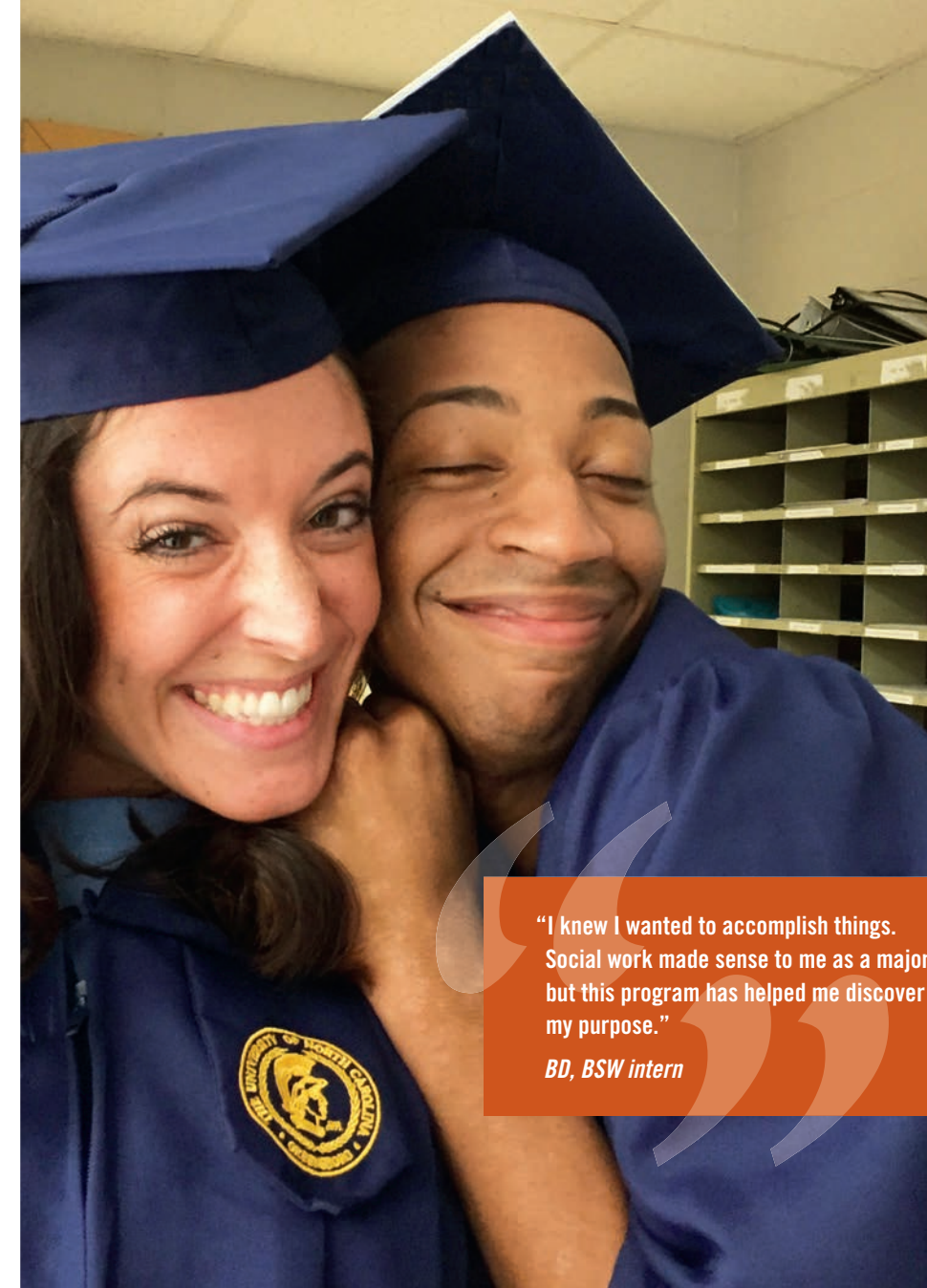
CSWEI SERVICES

- Counseling
- Care coordination (case management)
- Bio-psycho-social and diagnostic assessments
- Evidence-based screeners
- Crisis intervention
- Education
- Advocacy

CSWEI COMMUNITY PARTNERS*

- Center of Excellence for Integrated Care
- Center for New North Carolinians
- College Park Baptist Church
- Cone Health Foundation
- Cone Health System
- Congregational Nurse Program
- Rockingham PENN Program
- Faith Action International House
- Family Services of the Piedmont
- Family Success Center
- Glen Haven (Refugee) Community Center
- Greensboro Urban Ministry-Weaver House
- Greensboro YWCA
- Guilford Community Care Network
- Guilford County Solution to the Opioid Problem (GC STOP)
- HOPES Program
- Interactive Resource Center
- Jewish Family Services
- Legacy Crossing (Refugee) Community Center
- N.C. A&T State University School of Nursing
- N.C. A&T State University Department of Social Work and Sociology
- Salvation Army Center of Hope
- The New Arrivals Institute
- Triad Health Project
- United Montagnard Christian Church
- UNCG School of Nursing

* Current community partners as of this printing.



“I knew I wanted to accomplish things. Social work made sense to me as a major but this program has helped me discover my purpose.”

BD, BSW intern

THE CONGREGATIONAL SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION INITIATIVE



A NEW PATH INTO THE SOCIAL WORK EXPERIENCE

The Congregational Social Work Education Initiative (CSWEI) began more than a decade ago as a model for training undergraduate and graduate students earning degrees in social work. The overarching program is unique, customized to the sites where it operates, and is a specialized, supervised training for the students.

The idea for CSWEI began with a partnership between the Congregational Nurse Program (CNP) and two university social work programs. With support from Cone Health Foundation, CSWEI and CNP continue to meet people in their own communities to address their health care and behavioral health needs.

CSWEI is a grant-funded venture between the University of North Carolina Greensboro (UNCG) and North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, (N.C. A&T State) both located in Greensboro.



“Our Foundation was the initial funder of this innovative program. When we provided start-up funds, we had no idea how impactful this program would be for the vulnerable populations in our community.”

Antonia Monk Richburg, VP, Senior Program Officer, Cone Health Foundation

“The A&T/UNCG Congregational Social Work Education Initiative (CSWEI) has been a vital community partner for the Cone Health Congregational Nurse Program in Guilford and Rockingham counties since its inception in 2007. Together, we have been able to offer an integrated care model that allows us to live out the Cone Health core values of Caring for Our Patients and Our Community. Together we offer the promise to those we serve that ‘we are right here with you.’”

Lelia Moore, Coordinator Congregational Nurse Program

CSWEI takes a Multidisciplinary approach in an Integrated Care Setting and provides:

- Bio-psycho-social and diagnostic assessments and Treatment Planning
- Counseling
- Crisis Intervention
- Care Coordination (Case Management)
- Evidence-based screeners
- Education
- Advocacy



CSWEI encompasses:

- Responsiveness to community needs and can be adapted to any community
- Flexibility. The goals and aims can change even in the middle of the term
- Ongoing needs assessment, which keeps CSWEI fresh and up to date
- Training specific to the Integrated Care model
- Pre-service training, which complements the students’ course study
- Experience with networking and continuing education through off site seminars and meetings

The program team includes MSW and BSW students in their final year of study working together at various agencies and organizations in Guilford and Rockingham Counties.

CSWEI participants receive:

- 48 hours of pre-service training which readies them for their placement sites.
- MSW interns are encouraged to develop leadership skills, which includes assisting in oversight of the undergraduate participants and community networking.
- BSW participants are encouraged to pursue their masters’ degrees while developing skills adaptable to the work world. A high percentage (90%) of CSWEI undergraduates apply for masters in social work programs each year.
- Guidance from a director with extensive social work and clinical experience.
- Training and work site experience that hone the interns’ ability to assess, treat and implement interventions in a fast-paced, efficient manner.
- Pairing with a Congregational Nurse to allow for experience with multi-disciplinary and comprehensive wrap around services.
- Multiple site rotation to improve their skills and expose them to a variety of disciplines. On average, participants work two sites during their internship.
- Challenges to be mobile and highly responsive to the people they serve, which includes populations most vulnerable such as immigrants and refugees, and persons experiencing homelessness.

The value of CSWEI for Those It Serves

- The generosity of the Cone Health Foundation allows for services to be free with no eligibility requirements for those who receive them
- Outreach to people representing a wide range of cultural and ethnic populations including Montagnard, Latinx, Burmese, Bhutanese and Congolese, to name a few.
- Services are provided in the communities in which they live and work.

An Evolution in Response to Need

CSWEI has grown to include experiences of delivering complex services to address co-occurring disorders and unmet physical and behavioral health needs. This growth led to a second grant to hire a Behavioral Health Nurse who works at various sites in the community. Interns work with this nurse as well as Community Health Workers. This unique model has gained national attention for the program.

“As an educator and a social worker, I am a broker in potential.”

Fran Pearson, CSWEI Director



“CSWEI has made a significant difference in the well-being of thousands of low wealth individuals in our community who were struggling with mental illness and substance use. This program is well respected in our community and across this nation due to the outcomes they have realized and the articles published about the impact of this program.

With others seeking to replicate this program, the time has now come for sustainability of this program and recognition of the need to grow the program to meet the demand for this unique approach to addressing co-occurring disorders.”

Antonia Monk Richburg, VP, Senior Program Officer, Cone Health Foundation