From health outcomes of older adults with autism to policies designed to eradicate poverty, research and outreach conducted at the School of Social Work addresses social challenges facing Wisconsin and the nation.
I am constantly impressed by the extent to which members of our School engage in communities beyond classrooms. I guess I shouldn’t be surprised – we’re social workers after all – we’re trained to move across agencies, systems, and borders in service with others. This year’s Connections is full of the ways research, teaching, and service by our students, faculty, and staff are rooted in community.

For example, three of our faculty edited a ground-breaking series that will help set the anti-poverty agenda for the next decade. Marah Curtis and partners are assessing the connection of health to housing in Milwaukee and taking their research statewide. Lara Gerassi received a Wisconsin Idea Seed Grant to create a regional response protocol for individuals at risk of sex trafficking in Wisconsin. Board of Visitors member and Senior Fellow Roberta Gassman was honored for her years of contribution to local, state, and national governments. Laura Dresser and Lonnie Berger launched the DreamUp Wisconsin project that seeks innovative ideas for increasing family incomes in Dane County.

It’s not just faculty. We maintain agreements with 400 local and state agencies where BSW and MSW students performed 144,000 hours of service in their Field Education placements this year alone. We award hundreds of hours of free continuing education credits to practicing social workers each year.

Our ability to dynamically engage and immerse students with their communities was aided this past year with an historic gift by Joel Berman. In honor of both his late wife and mother-in-law, Joel made a $5 million endowed gift to the School to support graduate students (p. 13). We cannot thank Joel enough for his gift and the impact it is already having on students.

Our efforts to improve diversity and inclusion have evolved and taken form through efforts such as our cultural dialogs, “Social Workers Confronting Racial Injustice Conference,” and celebration for students of color. This year, we have selected So You Want to Talk About Race as the first ever School Community Read and purchased copies of the book for all students, faculty, and staff. Our School community will discuss this book throughout the year. There is much more we as individuals and a community do every day to improve the diversity and inclusion of our School and our communities. And there is so much more to be done.

Finally, this is an election year. As in every election cycle, voting is core to political action and is a fundamental tenet to community engagement. Remember to get out and vote and to help all others exercise this important civic responsibility. Voting is Social Work! See more: votingissocialwork.org.

With an eye toward community and the future!

Warmly,

Stephanie Robert

Stephanie Robert
“What if instead of proposing sweeping cuts to the safety net programs that help keep millions of Americans afloat, the nation’s leaders reimagined what it means to lift people out of poverty completely.” (Colorlines, February 20, 2018).

When the Russell Sage Foundation and Robin Hood Foundation sought to “set the anti-poverty policy agenda for the next decade,” they called on three School of Social Work and Institute for Research on Poverty faculty to lead that effort. Professors Lonnie Berger, Maria Cancian, and Katherine Magnuson edited Anti-Poverty Initiatives for the United States, a special two-issue Russell Sage Journal of the Social Sciences, published earlier this year.

The journal “showcases a collection of innovative and specific proposals intended to reduce poverty in the short- and/or long term or improve economic wellbeing,” by focusing on “real-world responses to current and emerging poverty-related problems.” The 16 articles in the two issues feature ideas from many of the leading anti-poverty and social policy experts in the U.S. These include:

- Converting the child tax credit into a universal, monthly child allowance, drawing on research that further investment could reduce deep poverty by 50 percent and effectively eliminate child poverty.
- Increasing funding for the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) by $42 a week, which would reduce food insecurity by an estimated 62 percent.
- Increasing financial resources to children living with a single parent by broadening child support services and publicly guaranteeing a minimum amount.

Katherine Magnuson explained in an interview with Colorlines, “We felt it was important to bring together a set of fresh ideas that would engage with what we have learned about anti-poverty policies of the past in order to generate positive and innovative solutions. The proposals range from rather incremental to much more innovative—but ultimately, when taken together we hoped they might shift and reframe the discussion in ways that would be forward thinking.”

As many of our alumni and friends know, the School has long been a leader in poverty research and social policy. Many of our faculty are associated with the UW-Madison’s Institute for Research on Poverty, now the sole federally-funded poverty research center in the U.S. Lonnie Berger serves as IRP’s Director and Katherine Magnuson as Associate Director for Research and Training.

YOU CAN ACCESS BOTH ISSUES ONLINE AT:
www.rsfjournal.org/doi/full/10.7758/RSF.2018
$1 Million Grant Supports Creating Conditions to Improve Housing for Wisconsin Families

Professor Marah Curtis, with her partners Community Advocates Public Policy Institute and School of Medicine and Public Health Professor Geoffrey Swain, received a 5-year, $1 million grant to inform housing policies related to health, quality, stability, and affordability to address Wisconsin’s housing crisis and its effects on public health.

The project began in Milwaukee and will expand to other counties in the state during the next five years. Project activities include building community-driven advisory councils, conducting health impact assessments, and recruiting and training tenant leadership teams. Its overall goal is to create conditions for local, state, and federal policymakers to improve current housing policies to help increase affordability, quality, and stability—ultimately improving health and well-being for low-income Wisconsinites and their families.

Professor Curtis, an expert on how housing policy impacts the well-being of children and families explains, “This project is exciting, because it allows for these various actors to reimagine the relationship of their community roles, the quality and affordability of their housing stock, and their choice to move toward the creation of increasingly healthful living environments that benefit Wisconsin families.”

Professor Curtis also presented at the State of Wisconsin’s Evidence-Based Health Policy Project Capitol Briefing Series about the intersection of housing and health. Her presentation set the stage for a larger panel discussion.

School Faculty Lead Project Seeking Innovative Ideas for Increasing Family Income

Social Work faculty members Laura Dresser and Lonnie Berger (also Director of the Institute for Research on Poverty) and colleague Professor J. Michael Collins, were awarded $1.5 million from Schmidt Ventures. According to Eric Schmidt, former CEO of Google, the grants seek to, “fuel an innovation engine to help distressed communities and expand the middle class.”

Joining three other universities nationally who also received support, the UW-Madison project’s goal is to produce innovative ideas for increasing the net income of 10,000 Dane County families by 10 percent by 2020. The Alliance for the American Dream initiative will bring together Dane County’s strong community, business, government, and non-profit networks to partner with the UW–Madison to reduce racial, ethnic, and geographic disparities and expand economic security and shared prosperity in the county. For more information, go to www.irp.wisc.edu/dreamup.

Responding to Suspected and Sex Trafficked Children

Lara Gerassi, Assistant Professor, is partnering with the Youth and Family Services Division in Outagamie County to develop services for individuals at risk of sex trafficking through a Baldwin Wisconsin Idea Seed Grant. Wisconsin Act 367 mandates that any suspected or confirmed cases of child trafficking be investigated and that law enforcement report such activities to child protective services.

The project aims to understand the gaps in services, enabling the development of specialized trainings for service providers and strengthening collaboration efforts to serve sex-trafficked children and youth, including a creative regional response protocol.

Professor Gerassi is a researcher of gender-based violence, human trafficking, and commercial sexual exploitation, and co-author of Sex Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation: Prevention, Advocacy, and Trauma-Informed Practice.
**DOCTORAL STUDENTS RECEIVE NATIONAL HONORS**

Students in our doctoral program are preparing for careers in academic, research, and social policy settings. We’re proud that several students received awards and support for their work.

**ANGELA GUARIN ARISTIZABAL** received an International Fellowship from the American Association of University Women (AAUW) to support research focusing on the wellbeing of disadvantaged children and families. She will study the economic consequences of divorce and separation for women in Colombia.

Angela also received an award from the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) for the presentation, “Is Socioeconomic Status a Barrier to Nonresidential Father’s Involvement with Their Children? Evidence from Survey and Administrative Data,” at their fall research conference.

**EMMA CARPENTER** received funding from the Society of Family Planning for her research proposal, “Understanding the Role of Sexual Identity in Shaping Pregnancy Intentions & Decisions: A Critical Step in Preventing Unintended Pregnancy Among Sexual Minority Women.”

**JUNE PAUL** was selected as a 2017-18 Eileen Blackey Fellow by the National Association of Social Workers to support her dissertation study, “Exploring Support for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Questioning (LGBTQ) Young People Aging Out of Foster Care.” June, who graduated in May 2018, is now an Assistant Professor of Social Work at Skidmore College.

**MEGHAN JENKINS MORALES** was chosen as a fellow by the Association for Gerontology Education in Social Work’s (AGESW) Pre-dissertation Program recognizing her potential in the field of academic gerontological social work.
Transitions

JOHN BORQUIST, lecturer in our field program is retiring. Following a long career at the Dane County Department of Human Services, he taught in our field program for 12 years. John, MSSW ’68, says, “I have had an extraordinarily wonderful and rewarding career as a social worker! My 12 years as a part-time field instructor with our School of Social Work has been a truly marvelous experience and a blessed journey to arrive at my 50-year anniversary as an MSSW graduate of this prestigious School.”

MARTA CANCIAN has accepted the position of Dean of the McCourt School of Public Policy at Georgetown University. An internationally known researcher and outstanding teacher, Maria has received many honors and awards and served in the Department of Health and Human Services during the Obama Administration.

MARGARET ZUEHLKE has retired but will continue her research activities through the campus’s Waisman Center. Marsha, internationally known for her research on the life course trajectories of people with developmental disabilities, had several major leadership positions at UW-Madison, most recently as Vice-Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education, she oversaw more than $1 billion dollars in annual research expenditures.

Field Faculty Present Nationally and Statewide

Faculty and instructors who teach and supervise our students in their field placements bring a wealth of practice experience to their work. During the past year several have shared their expertise by presenting at national and state meetings:


ANGELA WILLITS, “What’s in Your Filing Cabinet: Teaching CBT to Increase Cultural Competence,” at the Council on Social Work Education’s Annual Program Meeting in Dallas, TX.


Special thanks to EMERITUS PROFESSOR ROSEMARIE CARBINO who has established a “Field Faculty Professional Development Fund” to support field faculty engaging in activities that disseminate knowledge and skills about social work, field education, and practice.

Field Hosts First Student Symposium

The Field Program hosted its first Student Symposium in April where students presented their year-long Change Agent Projects. In addition to the 144,000 hours in professional service performed across the state, most students planned and executed a Change Agent Project highlighting work they’ve done in agency settings to enhance services. Many of these projects focus on more inclusive practices and addressing disparities within client systems.

Did You Know?

The University of Wisconsin-Madison, one of the nation’s largest universities, offers 160 master’s degrees. For the past five years, the School of Social Work has been the number one master’s degree granting school or department on campus. During that period the School awarded 875 MSW degrees.
Emeritus Professor Rosemarie Carbino Continues Her Foster Care Work

Although long-time faculty member Rosemarie Carbino retired several years ago, she continues to share her foster care expertise. She recently presented, “Allegations of Maltreatment Against Foster Families: Where Are We Now?” at the 20th biennial International Foster Care Organization (IFCO) World Conference in Malta.

Roberta Gassman Honored

Recognizing Senior Fellow Roberta Gassman’s significant professional contributions to local, state and national government, Wisconsin Women in Government presented her with its 2018 “Legacy Award.” Over her 46-year career, Roberta has held significant local, state, and national positions in government. These include Deputy Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training at the U.S. Department of Labor, Secretary of Wisconsin’s Department of Workforce Development, and serving as a key advisor to both the mayor of Madison and the County Executive of Dane County.

Roberta, a 1972 MSSW graduate, serves on the School’s Board of Visitors.

Jooyoung Kong Joins the Faculty

Jooyoung Kong, PhD
Boston College, MSW
Ewha Women’s University South Korea and Washington University in St. Louis

Jooyoung Kong joins the faculty as an assistant professor. Her primary interests include family relationships of older persons, particularly the long-term impacts of parental childhood maltreatment on later-life intergenerational relationships. Her other interests include relational conflict in family caregiving, stress and coping in older adults, and childhood trauma and adult attachment. Jooyoung will focus her teaching in human behavior and the social environment, family issues, and gerontology.

Students celebrate graduation earlier this year.

Katherine Magnuson is one of twelve professors across campus awarded a Vilas Distinguished Achievement Professorship, recognizing distinguished scholarship as well as standout efforts in teaching and service. The award provides five years of flexible funding. Professor Magnuson’s research centers on the well-being and development of economically disadvantaged children and their families.
Understanding the Unique Health Needs of Adults with Autism

In the 1990s, the prevalence of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) among children rose sharply. These children are now entering adulthood, yet we know very little about the health outcomes they might face, since most studies of health have focused on children and adolescents.

In a study published in *Autism Research*, lead author and Assistant Professor Lauren Bishop-Fitzpatrick and faculty colleagues at UW-Madison (including other social work faculty members Jan Greenberg and Marsha Mailick), found that older adults with ASD may be at greater risk than people without the disorder of developing several health problems, including cardiovascular, urinary, respiratory, and digestive issues.

Bishop-Fitzpatrick explains, “This is one of the few studies to look at health problems in a primarily middle-aged and older population of individuals with ASD. Knowing what health issues adults with autism are more likely to encounter is critical to provide them with effective care and develop prevention strategies.”

The researchers used machine learning—a form of artificial intelligence—to analyze de-identified electronic health records of individuals who had received healthcare from the Marshfield Clinic in central Wisconsin and have since passed away. They found that individuals with ASD had increased risks of developing several health complications, including various cardiovascular problems, hypothyroidism, and other neurological issues. They were at decreased risk of alcohol abuse, hypertension, and of developing metastatic cancers.

“Our goal is to create strategies and interventions that can help individuals with ASD live longer and healthier lives and to make sure they have the best quality of life for as long as possible,” says Bishop-Fitzpatrick.

Professor Xiong and Colleagues Work with Bilingual Hmong and Latino Youth

A “Grand Challenge Initiative” funded by the UW-Madison’s School of Education is supporting social work assistant professor Yang Sao Xiong and other UW-Madison colleagues’ work with bilingual Hmong and Latino Youth. The project explores how bilingual Latino and Hmong youth with and without disabilities develop sociocritical literacies through participatory action research. It utilizes students’ writing assignments, digital stories, discussion board posts, surveys and interviews to reveal students’ new and shifting perceptions about themselves and their lives.
Last year’s Distinguished Alumni Award honoree was Ben Shumaker, MSW ’06. Ben is the Director of the Memory Project—a nonprofit organization that he started while studying psychology and social work at the UW. The Memory Project invites art teachers and their students to create and donate portraits to youth around the world who have faced substantial challenges such as violence, disasters, extreme poverty, neglect, and loss of parents. Since 2004, the Memory Project has created more than 100,000 portraits for children in 43 countries.

VISIT MEMORYPROJECT.ORG.

Student portraits from the Memory Project.
1950s

CAROL BAGLEY, MSSW ’50, was a social worker in Niles Michigan where she worked in community mental health and had a private practice. After she moved to Trempealeau, WI, where she now lives, she had a private practice before retiring at age 84.

AGNES (BIRO) ROTHBLAT, BA ’54 recently wrote a memoir, *A Journey from the Chain Bridge to the Golden Gate*, describing her journey to the U.S. as a Holocaust survivor. Anges’ husband Isaiah, MSSW ’54, passed away in 2014. Late Professor Alfred Kadushin was the best man at their wedding.

1960s

MARION USHER, MSSW ’65, a member of the School’s Board of Visitors recently wrote *One Couple Two Faiths; Stories of Love and Religion* about her work with interfaith couples. It’s available at https://www.politics-prose.com/book/9781624291487

1970s

BELA BOGNAR – PhD ’74 taught at Wright State University for 30 years. Bela was a Hungarian Freedom Fighter in the 1956 Hungarian Revolution. His efforts to raise scholarship money for Hungarian students resulted in his receiving the Knight’s Cross of the Order of Merit, one of Hungary’s highest honors.

MARK MOGILKA, MSSW ’74, is the recipient of the 2017 Rev. Louis J. Luzbetak SVD Award for Exemplary Church Research from the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University. Mark recently retired as director of Stewardship and Pastoral Services of the Diocese of Green Bay.

1980s

DONNA RICHARD-LANGER, MSSW ’80, who recently retired writes, “I had wonderful career in social work.” Most recently her work focused on assisting women and families with perinatal mood disorders in her practice in Des Moines, IA.

JERRY ROUSSEAU, MSSW ’81, was awarded NASW-Wisconsin’s 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award for his leadership in mental health services and social work education. He is Emeritus Clinical Professor at the UW-Milwaukee’s School of Social Work.

MICHAEL DALEY, PhD ’83, is Department Chair & Professor of Social Work, Texas A&M University—Central Texas
LINDA JONES, PhD ’84 shared that “6 gal-pal” doctoral alums got together for a mini-reunion in Minneapolis in July.

DON OELLERICH, PhD ’84, recently retired after serving as the Deputy Chief Economist at the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Professor Dan Meyer explains, “Don’s been a tireless champion of bringing research to bear on poverty policy.”

1990s
MICHELLE WATTS, MSSW ’91, Justice Outreach Coordinator at the Milwaukee VA Hospital, represented the School at a Milwaukee alumni of color gathering in Milwaukee.

BECKY FERNETTE, MSSW ’92, is a Senior Lecturer in Psychology at UW-Platteville. Prior to that she served as the only instructor for the Human Services Associate program at Southwest Tech in Fennimore, Wisconsin.

CARLOS HERNANDEZ, BSW ’93, received an Outstanding Leadership in Mental Health Award at the Tucson AZ Media and Business’s Influential Health and Medical Leaders Banquet.

TIM GROVE, MSW ’95, an expert on Trauma-Informed Care, was featured on a 60 Minutes segment hosted by Oprah Winfrey.

WESLEY RAY, MSSW ’95, is the Director of Badger State Industries which provides jobs and job training for inmates in the State of Wisconsin’s Department of Corrections.

BETH ANGELL, PhD ’99, was named Dean at Virginia Commonwealth University’s School of Social Work. Beth’s research focuses on mental health and substance abuse has been supported by more than $10 million in grants from state and federal agencies and private organizations.

2000s
TORRIE KOPP MUELLER, MSW ’02, Continuum of Care Coordinator for the Dane County Homeless Services Consortium, received the “Clay Erlanger Civility in Public Discourse Award” from the city of Madison.

ROBIN ARNDT, MSW ’08, is the Director of Field Education at the University of Hawaii-Manoa, School of Social Work. He also serves as President of NASW, Hawaii.

2010s
MAUREEN GARVEY, MSW ’12, received a Distinguished Alumni Award from NASW-WI recognizing her outstanding work at UW Hospital’s Organ Transplant Unit.

SAMANTHA JOHNSON, BSW ’13, MSW ’14 is the Violence Prevention Manager for the UW-Madison’s University Health Services. She received the Student Personnel Association Campus Impact Award for her work to expand violence prevention education for incoming students.

EMILY ADAMS, MSW ’16, is a Care Coordinator at the Flagstaff Medical Center in Flagstaff, AZ.

JACOB MURPHY, BS ’17 is a high school coach with AmeriCorps College Possible Program in Minneapolis.
ALUMS SHARE THEIR EXPERTISE

Every year many School alums share their expertise via workshops, conferences, and writing. We’re proud to highlight the contributions of 16 alums who presented at NASW’s Conference in October 2017.


RACHEL DOZER, MSW ’15, “Building a Bridge Together: Working with Native American Youth.”

PENNIE FELTON, MSSW ’93, “Retrofitting Health Care Innovations to Drive Quality and Safety Outcomes in Social Work Practice.”

TIM GROVE, MSSW ’95, “Trauma Informed Care: A Shift in Perspective.”

FABIOLA HAMDAN, MSSW ’97, “Challenges for Refugees and Immigrants Today.”

EMILY KENNEY, MSW ’09, “Ending Homelessness: A Solution.”

JOSHUA P MERSKY, PhD ’06 and DIMITRI TOPITZES, PhD ’06, “Universal Trauma-Informed Family Services: Interrupting the Intergenerational Transmission.”

JENNIFER PARKER, MSSW ’86, “From Surviving to Thriving: On the Road to Empowerment.”

PATRICIA PARKER, BSW ’85, “Clinical Response to Identifying and Understanding and Treating Racial Trauma of Black Children.”

COURTNEY STEINHAFEL, MSSW ’05, “Goals of Care Conversation Training.”

NAOMI TAKAHASHI, MSW ’12, “Creating Equitable Organizations.”


KRISTI S. WOOD, MSW ’13, “Trauma Informed Care for Youth in the Child Welfare System.”

DEBORAH ROSENTHAL ZEMEL, BSW ’77, “The Future of the Aging Population and Caregiving.”
MARY NACK, BS ’40, July 2018, served on the staff of the Wisconsin Council of Churches and the Wisconsin Conference of the United Church of Christ. Mary was at the leading edge of women becoming more active in leadership roles in the church.

KATHERINE “KITTY” PRICHARD BENZ, MSSW ’51, January 2018, worked in child welfare and school social work. In 1996 she established a scholarship at the School. To date, more than 25 students have benefited from her generosity.

EILEEN GATTSHALL, MSSW ’52, June 2018, worked as a therapist at the Tri-County Human Service Center in Baraboo, WI and had several volunteer positions in Sauk County.

FRED LOCKE, MSSW ’54, November 2013, was a social worker in child welfare for LA County in California.

PAUL GREENE, BS ’58, April 2018, was a social worker at Dane County Social Services, Madison, WI from 1959-1989 where he helped implement the Food Stamp and General Assistance Programs.

LLOYD LINDEN, MSSW ’60, July 2018, held several leadership positions at UW-Platteville following a career in public welfare.

ROBERT J. KAYE, MSSW ’63, July 2018, had a private practice in Madison with a special focus on geriatric counseling.

GEORGE ROGERS THOMAS, PhD ’69, February 2017, founded the Regional Institute of Social Welfare Research and was an expert in child welfare policy and program development. Acknowledging his contributions, the University of Georgia’s Library Archives have added his papers to their Special Collections.

PATRICIA HILL, BSW ’71, March 2018, worked in foster care and juvenile justice in Florida.

BARBARA MALONEY, MSSW ’73, March 2018, was a long-time mental health practitioner in private practice in Madison, WI.

SANDRA LICHTY, PhD ’74, December 2017, first worked as a senior executive at the U.S. Public Health Service. She later was a healthcare consultant for several organizations.

GEARLD TURNER, MSSW ’74, May 2018, worked as a probation officer in Milwaukee and then received a law degree. Jerry was a NCAA champion boxer at UW-Madison.

PATRICIA ANN WILSON, BA ’74, May 2018, was the Family Support and Education Coordinator at the Alzheimer’s and Dementia Alliance of Wisconsin for 17 years.

PHILLIPS “SKIP” KINDY, MSSW ’75, August 2018, was a clinical social worker in Madison, WI. A devout Tibetan Buddhist, Skip was very active in Tibetan Resettlement in the U.S.

PAULINE DIMMIG, BA ’79, April 2018, was a counselor at the Dane County Juvenile Shelter Home in Madison for more than 25 years.

JAMES HALL, PhD ’80, August 2018, was Professor of Social Work and Pediatrics at Indiana University. Jim’s research focused on the development and evaluation of interventions for the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, especially in adolescence.

ANN BRICKSON, MSSW ’83, August 2018, worked to address domestic violence and the needs of its victims for 40 years in Madison, WI.

DONNA KIRCHENMANN, MSSW ’83, April 2018, was a social worker with several agencies in Madison, WI including Briarpatch and Emerson/Sandburg Elementary schools.
In the fall of 2018, Joel F. Berman, CEO and founder of Iatric Systems, Inc., made a historic gift of $5 million to endow scholarships for graduate students in perpetuity. The gift is already transforming lives and opening the world of social work to individuals who may not have considered it or afforded it otherwise.

Joel made the gift in honor of his late wife’s and his mother-in-law’s dedication to the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Social Work. Ethel Sandra “Sandy” Rosenbaum received a bachelor’s degree in psychology and sociology in 1972 and a master’s degree in social work from the university in 1976. Her mother, Harriet Abelson Rosenbaum, was a 1948 graduate of the university.

“I fully funded my undergraduate degree with financial aid, full and part time employment while maintaining full credit loads,” says Cassandra Theno one of the first students to receive a Rosenbaum Graduate Scholarship.

“This scholarship will assist me in accomplishing my goal towards becoming a clinical social worker being able to work with individuals struggling with mental illness and substance abuse.”

Four million dollars of his gift established scholarships for full and part-time MSW students. The scholarships cover tuition and fees, plus a stipend for students with financial need. One million dollars went to a student support fund to pay for more students to attend workshops, bring in speakers, and support students’ field education.

“Sandy pursued social work because she saw people in need growing up in New York City and wanted to help them, and because of her mother Harriet, who, as a social worker in New York, exemplified the transformational impact one can have on a person’s life through this work,” Berman says. “This gift fulfills Sandy’s dream of honoring her mother by encouraging
more students to pursue social work, thereby bringing more social workers into our communities.”

Five students were selected to receive the scholarship this year. Next year at least eight students will be selected.

In addition to the scholarship funds, the School sent students to Washington, D.C. to attend “Social Work Day on the Hill,” and learn about political organizing through the Congressional Research Institute for Social Work and Policy. The School also sent a student and instructor to the Black Social Workers National Conference in April; paid for students to attend conferences on racial injustice and women, gender, and wellbeing; and hosted several events with support from these funds. And that was just in the first few months.

“We are so grateful to Mr. Berman for honoring his wife's and his mother-in-law’s social work roots by supporting our students,” says Stephanie Robert, director and professor of the School of Social Work.

“The scholarship and opportunity fund will enable us to recruit and support students who have the passion and dedication to become social workers during a time when our world needs them the most.”
Tamara Grigsby Scholarship Joins the Grigsby Fund for Diversity and Inclusion

In April 2017, the School announced the Tamara Grigsby Memorial Fund for Diversity and Inclusion, honoring the late Tamara Grigsby, MSW ’00, a passionate advocate for social justice. Thanks to the generosity of many alumni and other donors, especially a lead gift from alum and School Board of Visitors member Marcy Bradley, the fund, which supports a range of activities to further inclusion and diversity efforts has grown substantially since its inception.

Wanting to also honor their daughter’s memory, Tamara’s parents Bettye and Howard Grigsby have recently funded the Tamara Grigsby Scholarship for Advocacy of Equity, Social Justice and Positive Social Change. This annual scholarship will support students who are committed to social justice.

Morrissey Family’s Gift Enhances our Mental Health Focus Area

As alumni of the School know, students and practitioners crave in-depth, skill-based educational opportunities. A generous donation by alum Meghan Morrissey, BSW ’83, and her husband Michael supported a recent two-day workshop to provide students and agency supervisors with training in Dialectical Behavior Training (DBT), an empirically supported comprehensive treatment effective in treating complex mental health problems. Widely used to treat borderline personality disorder, DBT is especially effective for clients who have difficulty managing and regulating their emotions.

More than 100 students and agency supervisors attended the workshop led by Kathryn Patrick, MSW ’07, a DBT clinician, supervisor, and trainer. Kathryn has led multiple workshops on the implementation of DBT and has consulted for DBT programs throughout Oregon and Washington.

Sending Students to DC

The School has sent several students to the Congressional Research Institute for Social Work & Policy thanks to donor funds such as the Roberta Gassman School of Social Work Opportunity Fund, The Maureen Pelton Hartwell Fund Women’s Rights, and the Harriet and Sandra Rosenbaum Opportunity Fund.

Betsy and Bezalel Haimson University League Scholarship

While most student scholarships are funded by alumni, Betsy Haimson graduated from the University of Minnesota’s School of Social Work with the help of a federal fund. Betsy, who is a member of the UW-Madison’s University League, and her husband, UW-Madison engineering Emeritus Professor Bezalel Haimson, have funded a scholarship to support an MSW student, with preference for a student who is a single parent.
Support the School of Social Work

YOUR SUPPORT IS VITAL

Donations from our alumni and friends help the School attract an outstanding and diverse student body, enable faculty to engage in research that addresses the increasingly complex needs of our society, support student activities, and foster an atmosphere conducive to the development of excellent social work practitioners. Your support keeps the School strong.

Three ways to donate:

1 ONLINE
   VISIT: socwork.wisc.edu/alumni/give

2 BY MAIL
   MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: UW-Madison Foundation/ School of Social Work
   MAIL TO: UW Foundation
            U.S. Bank Lockbox, Box 78807
            Milwaukee, WI 53278-0807

3 TELEFUND PLEDGE
   You may receive a call from the UW Foundation during its annual pledge drive. Please remember to designate your gift to the School of Social Work.

TO DISCUSS YOUR SPECIFIC PHILANTHROPIC INTERESTS
If you have questions or suggestions about supporting the School, please contact Mel Morgenbesser, Alumni Relations and Development (608) 213-8082, or Dr. Stephanie Robert, Director, School of Social Work (608) 263-3671.
To learn about other ways of supporting the School such as making a gift of securities, making life-income gifts, or including the School in your estate plans, please contact Andrew Kitslaar at the University of Wisconsin Foundation (608) 308-5314.

MATCHING GIFTS BY EMPLOYERS
Many employers will match an employee’s donation, doubling or tripling the gift to the university. Learn more at supportuw.org/how-to-give/matching-gifts.
Thank You to all of our Donors!

THANK YOU ALUMNI AND FRIENDS WHO SUPPORTED THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK JANUARY 2017-JUNE 2018!

$5 million
Joel Berman (see page 13)

$25,000+
Charles Hartwell
Maureen Pelton

$10,000+
David Beck-Engel
Theresa Beck-Engel
Marcia Bradley
Heather Southwick
Bezalel Haimson
Elizabeth Haimson
James S. Haimson
Irv Raffe

$5,000+
Meghan Morrissey
Michael Morrissey
David Shook
Karen Bougneit

$1,000+
Sandra Arnn
Attic Correctional Services Inc
Norma Berkowitz
Daniel Burrell
Janice Burrell
Rosemarie Carbino
Siu Chan
Robert Conway
Thomas Corbett
Christine Durlak
Joseph Durlak
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Thanks to the following alums who made provisions in their wills to support the School:

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