

# Congratulations, Class of 2023



## 2023 Commencement

**UNLOCKING** an **UNLIMITED** future

11 a.m. Friday, May 12 | Stuart C. Siegel Center



**VCU**

School of Social Work

# Order of exercise

## Marshals and banner bearers

- Office of Student Success staff and student volunteers

## Processional

- Faculty and guests
- Ph.D. graduates
- M.S.W. graduates
- B.S.W. graduates

## Introduction of the dean

- Stevara Haley Clark, Ed.D., acting associate dean for academic and student affairs; and associate professor in teaching

## Welcome and special faculty recognition

- Rebecca Gomez, Ph.D., interim dean and associate professor

## Commencement speaker

- Anthony Estreet, Ph.D., M.B.A., LCSW-C

## Special student recognitions

- Stevara Haley Clark, Ed.D.

## Recognition of Ph.D. graduates

- Denise Burnette, Ph.D., director, Ph.D. Program

## Ph.D. student speaker

- Cameron Tomlinson

## Hooding of Ph.D. graduates

- Denise Burnette, Ph.D.
- Matthew Bogenschutz, Ph.D.
- Youngmi Kim, Ph.D.
- Sunny Shin, Ph.D.

## Awarding of Ph.D. diplomas

- Rebecca Gomez, Ph.D.
- Denise Burnette, Ph.D.

## Recognition of M.S.W. graduates

- Nicole L. Lee, Ph.D., director, M.S.W. Program

## M.S.W. student speaker

- Elicia Carter

## Hooding of M.S.W. graduates

- Qasarah Bey Spencer, Ed.D., assistant professor in teaching
- Kimberly Compton, Ph.D., assistant director, M.S.W. Program; and assistant professor in teaching
- Gary Cuddeback, Ph.D., associate dean for research and interim associate dean for faculty affairs
- Ananda Newmark, Ph.D., associate professor in teaching
- M. Alex Wagaman, Ph.D., associate professor

## Awarding of M.S.W. diplomas

- Rebecca Gomez, Ph.D.
- Nicole L. Lee, Ph.D.

## Reading of M.S.W. graduate names

- Humberto E. Fabelo, Ph.D., associate professor
- Mer Francis, Ph.D., assistant professor

## Recognition of B.S.W. graduates

- Stephanie G. Odera, Ed.D., director, B.S.W. Program

## B.S.W. student speaker

- Mya Mombrun

## Awarding of B.S.W. diplomas

- Rebecca Gomez, Ph.D.
- Stephanie G. Odera, Ed.D.

## Reading of B.S.W. graduate names

- Allison K. Ryals, M.S.W., LCSW, assistant director, B.S.W. Program
- Shenita Williams, Ph.D., director, field education; and assistant professor in teaching

## Closing remarks

- Rebecca Gomez, Ph.D.

## Recessional

# Acknowledgements

Thank you to all the administrative staff members in the School of Social Work for their contributions to the school, its students and faculty. Special thanks to all the student volunteers assisting with the ceremony.

Photography: Photo Specialties and Cindy Newmark; American Sign Language interpreters: Mosaic Interpreting Services; live streaming operations: Advanced Visual Productions

See back cover for floor plan/seating details.

## Anthony Estreet, Ph.D., M.B.A., LCSW-C

Estreet was named chief executive officer of the National Association of Social Workers in January 2023. He earned a bachelor's in science in psychology from Bowie State University, an M.S.W. at Virginia Commonwealth University, a doctorate in social work at Morgan State University, and an M.B.A. at the University Maryland-College Park. He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha, the oldest intercollegiate African American fraternity.

He was previously a professor and chair of the Master of Social Work Program at Morgan State University starting in 2013. Estreet is also founder and chief executive officer of Next Step Treatment Center in Baltimore, which provides substance use treatment and mental health services. He was vice president of the NASW Board of Directors but stepped down from that role after being considered a candidate in the search process. Estreet also served as president of the NASW Maryland Chapter and is an active member of the Council on Social Work Education and the National Association of Black Social Workers.

While at Morgan, Estreet was awarded more than \$6 million in extramural grant funding for social work workforce development, research and training. He also led the development and expansion of the first M.S.W. program in the United States, and at a historically Black college or university, to have an area of specialized practice focused on addressing substance use disorders.

During his career, Estreet has also been tapped to turn around and expand an underperforming clinical program and speed up public health action to address HIV health disparities among men in Baltimore and Jackson, Mississippi. Estreet has published extensively in peer-reviewed journals, is a prolific national conference presenter and keynote speaker, and has two published books.



Learn more about Dr. Estreet's NASW appointment and his perspectives on VCU and higher education.

## University Honors

### Black History in the Making Award

*M.S. W.*

Elicia Carter

*B.S. W.*

Oscar Kemp

## School Honors and Awards

### School of Social Work Phi Kappa Phi Scholarship

*M.S. W.*

Samantha Cain

### Elaine Z. Rothenberg Memorial Scholarship Fund

*Ph.D.*

Sarah N. Lineberry

*B.S. W.*

Oscar Kemp

### Student Field Impact Award

*M.S. W.*

Camryn-Rachele Bosko

Lourdes Sandoval

*B.S. W.*

Alyshia Hill

Ralph Whitfield

### Phi Alpha National Honor Society for Social Work Students

*M.S. W.*

Laura M. Asbury

Caitlin Buchanan

Jensina Burstein

Caroline Copeland Gonzales

Deedra Everett

Jarman Fagalde

Mary Falter

Jennifer Anne Flynn

Michael J. Gifford

Ashley Golden

Emily Harris

Deborah Katz

Aaron Keen

Jennifer Tweel Kelly

Aaryn Kopp

Grace Antonia Landolt

Amber N. Leathers

Meredith Migliaccio

Grace Rice

Deborah Lorey Scian

Jonathan Lao Seng

Benjamin Shenal

Jamie Simpkins

Michaela Stam

Taylor Marie Steffan

Alexandra Grace Fellows Sullivan

Carmetra Margirae Tyre

Rachael Wesolowski

Laura Zettlemoyer

Daniela Patricia Zuleta-Sarmiento

*B.S. W.*

Denise Allen

Sydney Biondi

Alex Brosius

Edline Lena Evans

Trinity Gillison

Abigail Johnson-Firth

SaQuayla Jones

Marlene Laynez-Loarca

Caroline Lois McWhirt

Angela-Marie Rone

Kayla Simpkins

Terisa Janet Smith

Jasmine M. Willey

### School of Social Work Service and Leadership Awards

*Ph.D.*

Jennifer L. Murphy

Cameron Tomlinson

*B.S. W.*

Chantice Blair

Oscar Kemp

### School of Social Work Social Justice Award

*Ph.D.*

Jennifer Murphy

*M.S. W.*

Angela Couch

## Undergraduate, Graduate and Doctoral Support Scholars

### Rosa Jimenez-Vazquez Adelante Scholarship: Sirviendo La Comunidad Hispana

*B.S. W.*

Briany Cruz

### Anne Fischer Scholarship Fund in the School of Social Work

*M.S. W.*

Jurica Brown

Ana Diaz

Emarie Drake

Sabrina Hawa

Tyler Holder

Lourdes Sandoval

### Child Welfare Stipend Program

*M.S. W.*

Cathleen Atkinson

Elena Boyle

Samantha Chavez

Robyn Coleman

Kala Curtis

Alexis Dickerson

Sophie Grace

Kayla Graves

Lizzie Heier

Marianne Lund

Andrea Olguin

Evelin Perez Rodriguez

Lauren Sherman

Tim Wallace

Claire Witmer

### Dr. David P. Beverly Memorial Scholarship Fund

*M.S. W.*

Ana Diaz

Stephen Grinnell

### Emmett W. Cocke, Jr. Scholarship

*M.S. W.*

Kimberly Garcia



**Frank and Patricia Baskind  
Scholarship**

*B.S. W.*

Oscar Kemp

**Fostering Success Scholarship**

*M.S. W.*

Allison Clough

*B.S. W.*

Maggie Boettiger

Oscar Kemp

**Gaye Shinall Jones Merit Scholarship  
in Social Work**

*B.S. W.*

Charlene Agustin

**Hans S. Falck Scholarship**

*Ph.D.*

Sarah N. Lineberry

Jennifer L. Murphy

**Hatcher Merit Scholarship in Social  
Work**

*B.S. W.*

Trinity Gillison

**Joanne Kerbs Caramanica  
Scholarship**

*M.S. W.*

Deborah Katz

**Judy M. Thomas “Dr. T.” B.S.W.**

**Scholarship**

*B.S. W.*

Kaela Burns

Gabe Vargas

**Kimberly K. Giancaspro Scholarship**

*M.S. W.*

Megan Schnellenberger

**Dr. Marilyn A. Biggerstaff Fund for  
Doctoral Student Research**

*Ph.D.*

Cameron Tomlinson

**Martin S. Schwartz Fund**

*M.S. W.*

Deborah Katz

**Cesare and Ida Sclarandis Fund**

*M.S. W.*

Deborah Katz

**Pamela B. Nystrom Memorial  
Scholarship Fund**

*B.S. W.*

Alexis Apollony

**Radical Alliance for Anti-Racism,  
Change and Equity (RAACE)**

*Ph.D.*

Jennifer L. Murphy

*M.S. W.*

Em Bickford

*B.S. W.*

Oscar Kemp

**Rick and Brenda Faulkner  
Scholarship**

*B.S. W.*

Maggie Boettiger

Katheryn M. Chihuan Iparraguirre

**Student Ambassadors**

*M.S. W.*

Eva Ramirez

**Virginia Council on Social Welfare  
Scholarship**

*B.S. W.*

Alexis Apollony

**We Are Why: A Scholarship Centering  
Black Community and Supporting**

**Black Liberation**

*M.S. W.*

Cathleen Atkinson

**Dual Degree, Certificate,  
Cooperative and Certification  
Program Recipients**

**Dual Degree M.S.W./M.P.H.**

*May 2023*

Lawrence Green

**Certificate in Aging Studies**

*December 2022*

Abby Ledford

*May 2023*

Ashly Welch

**Certificate in Gender Violence  
Intervention**

*May 2023*

Sara Burleson

Kerry Byrne

Elicia Carter

Stephen Grinnell

Tyler Holder

Zoe Minnick

Taylor Marie Steffan

**Certificate in Nonprofit  
Management**

*May 2023*

Natalie Battaglia

Kerry Byrne

Jerica Thompson

*August 2023*

Nicole Concepcion Aquino

**Certification in School Social Work**

*December 2022*

Edelmaris Colindres

Justin Torrence

*May 2023*

Allison Clough

Caroline Copeland Gonzales

Malik Edmonds

Courtney Fosque

April Garber

Brooke Gardner

Melvisha Hathaway

Megan Martin

Meredith Migliaccio

Paloma Saucedo de la Pena

Laura Zettlemoyer

*August 2023*

Crystal D. Moran

Brooke Vanlandingham

**Va-LEND**

*May 2023*

Grace Rice

# Ph.D. Graduates

## Sunghwan Cho

### Dissertation

*Acculturative stress, religiosity, resilience and quality of life among older Korean immigrants.*

### Dissertation Chair

Denise Burnette, Ph.D.

### Committee

Kyeongmo Kim, Ph.D.

Sarah Kye Price, Ph.D.

Rosalie Corona, Ph.D., VCU Department of Psychology

## Sarah N. Lineberry

### Dissertation

*Impact of COVID-19 on adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the United States.*

### Dissertation Chair

Matthew Bogenschutz, Ph.D.

### Committee

Hollee McGinnis, Ph.D.

Kyeongmo Kim, Ph.D.

Parthenia Dinora, Ph.D., Partnership for People with Disabilities

## Jennifer L. Murphy

### Dissertation

*Adolescent school mental health service utilization*

### Dissertation Chair

Youngmi Kim, Ph.D.

### Committee

Kyeongmo Kim, Ph.D.

Traci Wike, Ph.D.

Kevin Sutherland, Ph.D., VCU School of Education

## Cameron Tomlinson

### Dissertation

*Comparing theoretical models of childhood adversity to understand psychological adjustment of child welfare-involved adolescents.*

### Dissertation Chair

Sunny Shin, Ph.D.

Shelby McDonald, Ph.D., Denver Zoological Foundation

### Committee

Hollee McGinnis, Ph.D.

Albert Farrell, Ph.D., VCU Department of Psychology

# M.S.W.

## Graduates

Abraham, Mary Pat  
Acosta-Lewis, Zephyr  
Ahmadi, Mckenzie  
Albert, Grace  
Arnold, Abigail  
Arvig, Anna  
Asbury, Laura  
Asuru-Acey, Nadell  
Atkinson, Cathleen  
Audritsh, Elizabeth  
Ayaz, Eman  
Baisden, Steven  
Baldwin, Tyler  
Battaglia, Natalie  
Beaty, Sierra  
Beganie, Kari  
Berlinghoff, Morgan  
Bettendorf, Maria  
Bickford, Em  
Bieltz, Alexis  
Bishop, Naomi  
Bitsas, John  
Blouch, Rachel  
Bopp, Lynanne  
Borchardt, Brooke  
Bosko, Camryn-Rachele  
Bowens, Trinity  
Breedon, Meredith  
Britt, Erin  
Brown, Dayla  
Brown, Jurica  
Brown, Marilyn  
Brown, Tina  
Bryan, Grace  
Buchanan, Caitlin  
Burleson, Sara  
Burns, Grace  
Burstein, Jensina  
Byrne, Kerry  
Carden, Emily  
Cardenas, Grecia  
Carter, Elicia  
Caswell, Jackson  
Cattler, Paige  
Chadwick, Audrey  
Chamale, Dania  
Chavez, Samantha  
Chenoweth, Megan

Clough, Allison  
Concannon, Sean  
Constancia-Sorto, Tatiana  
Cooley, Addy  
Copeland, Caroline  
Crispens, Cameron  
Cruz, Cecilia  
Cunha-Benjamin, Bela  
Davis, Hope  
Deitutu, Kwasi  
DeMildt, Anna  
Denny, Jordan  
Diaz, Maria  
Dickerson, Alexis  
Dovel, April  
Dowdy, Grace  
Drake, Emarie  
Dunn, Rebecca  
Edmonds, Malik  
Eline, Lauren  
Ellis, Kathryn  
Ellson, Katherine  
Everett, Deedra  
Fagalde, Jarman  
Finley, Jessica  
Flynn, Jennifer  
Foley, Ires  
Fosque, Courtney  
Fox, Tiffany  
French, Amanda  
Froelich, Stefanie  
Futrell, Armani  
Gaffin, Rachel  
Garber, April  
Garcia, Kimberly  
Gardner, Brooke  
Gaskins, J'Keyah  
Gayles, Italy  
Gifford, Michael  
Goldberg, Megan  
Golden, Ashley  
Grace, Sophie  
Graves, Kayla  
Gray, Jason  
Green, Lawrence  
Grinnell, Stephen  
Harris, Anna  
Harris, Milo  
Hartzog, Haylee  
Harvey, Vania  
Hathaway, Melvisha  
Hawa, Sabrina

Hinks, Kelly  
Holder, Tyler  
Holstein, Lauren  
Hoy, Jessica  
Isbell, Kara  
Jackson, Naomi  
Jensen, Ryanna  
Jimenez, Stephanie  
Johnson, Emily  
Jones, Brittany  
Judge, Colleen  
Kahn, Emmanuelle  
Katz, Debo  
Keen, Aaron  
Kelly, Jen  
Knopp, Benjamin  
Kopp, Aaryn  
Kotait, Taylor  
Kumar, Kathryn  
Landolt, Grace  
Leathers, Amber  
Levendosky, Simone  
Lewis, Jacquaila  
Ligush, Annie  
Lins, Bill  
Lloyd, Olena  
Lowe, Rebecca  
Lund, Marianne  
Lunos, Cali  
Maddux, Ryan  
Mair, Tavan  
Martin, Megan  
McCormick, Jessica  
McCray, Nikayla  
McDonald, Louise  
McKinney, Christopher  
Migliaccio, Meredith  
Minnick, Zoe  
Miranda, Karissa  
Mitchell, Rebecca  
Morgan, Anna  
Muneer, Javeria  
Neal, Megan  
Negash, Maya  
Oakley, Olivia  
Omps, Vaughn  
Perez Rodriguez, Evelin  
Peyton, Madalyn  
Pillai, Kashish  
Pirozzi, Emma  
Pitts, Rashonda  
Ramey, Kristen

Ramirez, Eva  
Rashid, Nody  
Reid, Kristen  
Rice, Grace  
Rocha, Allanah  
Rodriguez, Freya  
Rodriguez, Jeniffer  
Roushar, Bree  
Rowe, Charlotte  
Rubley, Julie  
Rucker, Christine  
Ruiz, Kristan  
Sadick, Emma  
Sanderson, Elizabeth  
Sandoval, Lourdes  
Saucedo de la Pena, Paloma  
Savage, Caitlyn  
Sawh, Marissa  
Schnellenberger, Megan  
Schnelzer, Pauline  
Schroeder, Kristin  
Scian, Deborah  
Seng, Jonathan  
Shaffer, Leigh  
Sheikh, Aman  
Shenal, Benjamin  
Sherman, Lauren  
Simpkins, Jamie  
Solell-Knepler, Kesem  
Sperry, Sophia  
Stafford, Elizabeth  
Stam, Michaela  
Steffan, Taylor  
Steinruck, Kamryn  
Stevenson, Rikki  
Sullivan, Alexandra  
Swankowski, Ashley  
Taylor, Chrysse  
Taylor, Jordan  
Thompson, Jerica  
Tyre, Carmetra  
Vannoy, Lynn  
Vannous, Jesse  
Vaughan, Erica  
Viado, Timothy  
Wachter, Rachel  
Wallace, Chelsea  
Wallace, Timothy  
Waybright, Liana  
Webel, Katharine  
Welch, Ashly  
Wesolowski, Rachael

White, Anita  
White, Evan  
White, Nicholas  
Wike, Asher  
Wilde, Delany  
Williams, Joleeta  
Witmer, Claire  
Wood, Ariel  
Worrell, Lilly  
Wray, Sydney  
Yellin, Skye  
Young, Byerly  
Zettlemoyer, Laura  
Zimmermann, Kathleen  
Zuleta-Sarmiento, Daniela

## December 2022 graduates

Adams, Jenna  
Allen, Daphne  
Arriaza, Laura  
Arey, Jessica  
Aryee, Shaqrah  
Branick, Deirdre  
Bultman, Kristin  
Cameron, Shan'Trese  
Castillo, Haylie  
Clark, Cornecia  
Clarke, Caroline  
Cohen, Samuel  
Colindres, Edelmaris  
Cook, Katherine  
Davis, Ashley  
Dietch, Michelle  
Faniel, Amber  
Felice, Sarah  
Guzman, Shelby  
Harker, Benjamin  
Heck, Laura  
Henderson, Tyler  
James, Jessica  
Johnson, KC  
Jones, Alicia  
King Carr, Phyllis  
Knittel, Eli  
Krenz, Megan  
Lay, Mico  
Le, Victoria  
Ledford, Abby  
Lewis, Kimberly  
Lloyd, Nohea  
McCord, Megan

McDevitt, Chitra  
 McKinley, Molly  
 Melton, Emily  
 Miller, Megan  
 Minor, Mary  
 Moylan, Lindsey  
 Oldfield, Caroline  
 Oliver, Antacia  
 Ondo, Lania  
 Park, Caroline (Carly)  
 Pitney, Linda  
 Reilly, Megan  
 Sanchez-Moreira, Claudia  
 Sanchez, Carlos  
 Sharif, Saima  
 Short, Malinnell  
 Simkol, Ilana  
 Smith, Ebony  
 Smith, Mackenzie  
 Snyder, Melinda  
 Spruill, Christina  
 Stith, Destiny  
 Suvanasai, Irrin  
 Thomas, Carole  
 Torrence, Justin  
 Tripp, Stephanie  
 Turner, Ian  
 Watson, Brittany  
 Williams, Brittany  
 Willner, Emily  
 Winebrenner, Levi  
 Zeman, Brittany

### August 2023 graduates

Anderson, E'Wayna Charnise  
 Aquino, Nicole Concepcion  
 Argo, Amiel  
 Bauer, Iz  
 Currier, Emily  
 Falter, Mary  
 Mobley, Ayan Ntiski  
 Moore, Alyson  
 Moran, Crystal D.  
 Olguin, Andrea  
 Owen, Vinessa Tramaine  
 Poole, LaNesia  
 Roane, Selena  
 Rudderman, Amanda  
 Stapor, Daniela  
 Taylor, Jessica  
 Vanlandingham, Brooke  
 Whelan, Carly

## B.S.W. Graduates

Abbott, Kathryn++  
 Abbott, Sherice  
 Agustin, Charlene  
 Allen-Pineda, Denise  
 Anderson, Kegan+  
 Angulo, Tatiana++  
 Apollony, Lexi++  
 Bailey, Ashley  
 Batool, Fatima+  
 Bell, Brittany  
 Biondi, Sydney++  
 Blair, Chantice  
 Blount, Danica  
 Boettiger, Maggie++  
 Brickey, Taylor+  
 Brosius, Alex+++  
 Bullock, Kywuan++  
 Burns, Kaela+  
 Bustillo, Claudia  
 Butler, Roquelle  
 Carney, Haley++  
 Carper, Bri+  
 Chapman, Hayley+  
 Chihuan Iparraguirre, Kathryn+  
 Cruickshanks, Eilidh  
 Cruz, Briany  
 Davis, Eliza++  
 Deiss, Rachel++  
 Dobra, Jordan+++  
 Durand, Chloe  
 Evans, Edline  
 Evans, Sam+  
 Flores Valdez, Leslie++  
 Gillison, Trinity++  
 Gordillo, Andressa+  
 Gosse, Lily++  
 Haile, Natania  
 Hartmann, Mackenzie+  
 Heinrich, Emma+  
 Henry, Ericka  
 Henry, Tiffany++  
 Hernandez-Zuniga, Jessica  
 Hicks, Robert+  
 Hildebrand-Travis, Q+  
 Hill, Alyshia  
 Hill, Kaylin  
 Hinkle, Ellie+++  
 Hudson, Jordan

Humphrey, Cecilia  
 Jefferson, Alana+  
 Jennison, Ashley+  
 Johnson, Mary  
 Johnson-Firth, Abigail++  
 Jones, SaQuayla  
 Kemp, Oscar+++  
 Koontz, Milo+++  
 Lacy, Patrice  
 Levy, Hannah+  
 Lindor Carty, Josiah  
 Lyons, Khaila  
 Marlow, Crystal  
 Martin, Eleanor+  
 Mathias, Hannah  
 Matthews, Talaya++  
 McKean, Kathryn+  
 McWhirt, Caroline++  
 Miano, Eduardo  
 Mombrun, Mya  
 Newborn, Kiera++  
 Papadopolou, Cat  
 Passos, Isabella++  
 Picone, Danielle  
 Rivers, Ashton  
 Rogers, Courtney  
 Rone, Angela-Marie++  
 Rose, Bria  
 Rucker, Daniel+  
 Sales, Ana+  
 Shaw, Jack  
 Shields, Caitlin  
 Simpkins, Kayla  
 Smith, Robert  
 Smith, Teri++  
 Thakkar, Layla  
 Thompson, Katherine  
 Vargas, Gabe  
 Walker, Violet+  
 Walltower, Morgan  
 Walter, Ella++  
 Whitesell, Margo  
 Whitfield, Ralph+  
 Willey, Jasmine++  
 Williams, Cameron  
 Wilson, Julianne  
 Woollett, Mayra+

### December 2022 graduates

Ellis, Fabian  
 Holicky, Molly

### August 2023 graduates

Argo, Amiel  
 Bush, Taylor  
 Duwa, Reilly++  
 Forbes, Nicolette  
 Laynez-loarca, Marlene++  
 Luck, Trinity

+++ Summa cum laude (3.9-4.0 GPA)  
 ++ Magna cum laude (3.6-3.89 GPA)  
 + Cum laude (3.3-3.59 GPA)

*Only undergraduate students are eligible for honors designations. Due to rigid time constraints, this program must be printed before the final list of degree candidates can be determined. The exclusion of the name of a student is not to be taken as an indication of official status as a non-graduate, nor is the inclusion of the name of a student to be taken as a certification of official status as a graduate.*





# Faculty

- Adrienne Baldwin-White, Ph.D., assistant professor
- Frank R. Baskind, Ph.D., dean emeritus and professor
- Qasarah Bey Spencer, Ed.D., assistant professor in teaching
- Matthew Bogenschutz, Ph.D., associate professor
- Denise Burnette, Ph.D., Samuel S. Wurtzel Endowed Faculty Chair in Social Work and professor
- Jamie L. Cage, Ph.D., assistant professor
- Jillian A. Carpenter, M.S.W., assistant professor in teaching
- Karen G. Chartier, Ph.D., associate professor
- Stevara Haley Clark, Ed.D., associate professor in teaching
- Kimberly S. Compton, Ph.D., assistant professor in teaching
- Nicole A. Corley, Ph.D., assistant professor
- Elizabeth P. Cramer, Ph.D., LCSW, professor
- Gary S. Cuddeback, Ph.D., professor
- Cassie Desena-Jacobs, D.S.W., LCSW, assistant professor in teaching
- Humberto E. Fabelo, Ph.D., LCSW, associate professor
- Mer Francis, Ph.D., assistant professor
- Maurice N. Gattis, Ph.D., associate professor
- Jacob Goffnett, Ph.D., assistant professor
- Rebecca Gomez, Ph.D., associate professor
- McKenzie N. Green, Ph.D., assistant professor
- Carrie A. Hartwell, Ph.D., LCSW, Instructor
- Hyojin Im, Ph.D., associate professor
- Muthoni Imungi, Ph.D., associate professor in teaching
- Kyeongmo Kim, Ph.D., assistant professor
- Youngmi Kim, Ph.D., associate professor
- Miriam Kuttikat, Ph.D., associate professor
- Nicole L. Lee, Ph.D., associate professor in teaching
- Hollee A. McGinnis, Ph.D., assistant professor
- Ananda Newmark, Ph.D., associate professor in teaching
- Stephanie G. Odera, Ed.D., associate professor in teaching
- Nicole L. O-Pries, M.S.W., LCSW, associate professor in teaching
- Sarah K. Price, Ph.D., professor
- Naomi Sutton Reddish, M.S.W., assistant professor in teaching
- Allison K. Ryals, M.S.W., LCSW, associate professor in teaching
- Sunny H. Shin, Ph.D., associate professor
- M. Alex Wagaman, Ph.D., associate professor
- Traci L. Wike, Ph.D., associate professor
- Shenita Williams, Ph.D., LCSW, assistant professor in teaching



# Administration and staff

- Leslie A.C. Aitken, D.Ed.Min., coordinator, Ph.D. Program
- Robert Anderson, M.S., upper-level B.S.W. student success advisor
- Allison Bell, M.A., executive assistant to the dean
- LaKesha Bennett, B.A., senior recruitment specialist
- Denise Burnette, Ph.D., director, Ph.D. Program
- Sarah Burton-Everette, M.Ed., director, advising and retention
- Stevara Haley Clark, Ed.D., acting associate dean, academic and student affairs; director, online education
- Lakeita Clarkson, M.S., online M.S.W. student success advisor
- Kimberly S. Compton, Ph.D., assistant director, M.S.W. Program
- J. Doug Critcher, assistant, B.S.W. Program
- Gary S. Cuddeback, Ph.D., associate dean, research; interim associate dean, faculty affairs
- Kiara Faulks, M.A., senior recruitment specialist
- Liana Fino, B.S., senior research administrator
- Cinnamon M. Francis, M.Sc., enrollment and agreements manager, field education
- Anna Givens, M.P.A., senior development specialist
- Rebecca Gomez, Ph.D., interim dean
- Janina Holly, B.S., communications specialist
- Kristin A. Hopkins, M.A., assistant, M.S.W. admissions
- Rachel Hosig, B.S.W., B.S., coordinator, M.S.W. Program
- Sharon Johnson, B.S., business manager
- Kimberly King, administrative coordinator, field education
- Nicole L. Lee, Ph.D., director, M.S.W. Program
- Geoff LoCicero, M.L.I.S., director, communications
- Amanda Long, M.S.W., coordinator, community engaged child and family well-being initiatives
- Jackie Maroney, fiscal services specialist
- Katy Martin-Poindexter, A.A.S., HR generalist
- Jasmine McLaughlin, M.S.W., LCSW, program field coordinator, field education
- Anna McLemore, M.P.A., HR manager
- Mieke Michelle, MA.Ed., coordinator, M.S.W. Program
- Bennett Newman, M.B.A., senior financial administrator
- Stephanie G. Odera, Ed.D., director, B.S.W. Program
- Susan L. O'Shea, M.ED., CPA, assistant dean, finance and administration
- Jay W. Pearman, B.S.C.I.S., information technology analyst
- Jazmyn Porter, M.P.H., M.S.W., senior advisor
- Sarah K. Price, Ph.D., professor
- Ieesah Ramsey, Ph.D., director, student success
- James Romanik, M.B.A., director, development
- Allison K. Ryals, M.S.W., LCSW, assistant director, B.S.W. Program
- India Turner, M.S.W., program field coordinator, field education
- Jacob A. Ulmschneider, M.A., assistant, M.S.W. admissions
- Audrey Walls, M.Ed., student success writing advisor
- Micah Weedman, Ph.D., term prep designer
- Shenita Williams, Ph.D., director, field education
- Madison Woodroof, M.S.W., assistant director and program field coordinator, field education



# Sarah Kye Price, Ph.D., M.S.W., M.S., M.Div. Professor

## Farewell



Dr. Sarah Kye Price is getting ready for one final commencement celebration at VCU after 17 years watching students walk across the stage and into the world to make a real, tangible difference in the lives of clients and communities.

"I fell into social work a little accidentally," Dr. Price recalls. "I started my

undergraduate career with a health focus and was working my way through school as a nurses' aide, and I was terrible at it. I loved talking with people, and that made me very slow with my work tasks. One day, my supervisor was reprimanding me and said rather bluntly, 'if you want to talk to people so [expletive!] much, maybe you should be a social worker.' I took an introduction to social work class the next semester. The rest is history!" She went on to earn her B.S.W. at SUNY College at Buffalo and her M.S.W. at Syracuse University.

Dr. Price's social work career has always been interdisciplinary. Her direct practice work has included health care settings in geriatrics, women's health, sub-acute rehabilitation and hospice care. She became a grief therapist in community practice specializing in reproductive health care and bereavement during and around the time of pregnancy. That work inspired her to pursue her Ph.D. (Washington University in St. Louis, 2005) in order to improve health and mental health for pregnant and parenting people. "My research, just like my practice, involves teams of nurses, physicians, public health professionals, community health workers, policy-makers and educators because we all have roles in creating and advocating for more equitable health and mental health care."

At VCU, Dr. Price attained the faculty rank of professor and has served as the Ph.D. Program director (2013-2014) and the associate dean for faculty development (2019-2022). Her research and scholarship have been funded by the NIH KL2 Scholars Program in Clinical and Translational Science, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) as well as several internal and community-foundation funding agencies. She has taught in-person, online and as a field instructor and liaison across programs and has served as the dual-degree advisor for the M.S.W.-M.P.H. program. She developed an online elective in Social Work Practice in Health Care, which will continue to be offered in the M.S.W. Program.

Dr. Price has been deeply engaged with her community of faith through ministry in racial justice and healing, food and housing equity, and pastoral care and support. In 2014, she began seminary in a hybrid model with Church Divinity School of the Pacific (CDSP) in Berkeley, California. After completing her M.Div. in 2018, she was ordained as an Episcopal priest. The Rev. Dr. Price has served locally with both Grace and Holy Trinity and St. Mark's, Richmond. Last year, she spent the spring and summer as visiting professor of women in ministry at CDSP, developing and teaching a course in social work and spiritual care. Most recently, she has been filling an interim role with the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia supporting others called to ordained ministry.

**What will you miss?** "I will miss my amazing colleagues and students. I am truly grateful for all the people who have crossed my path here at VCU."

**What are you most proud of?** "Deep commitment to my social work values, and living that out through my teaching, mentoring and community-engaged research partnerships. Now I hope to be an excellent community partner with the School of Social Work!"

**VCU awarded Dr. Price the honorary  
designation of Distinguished  
Career Professor in May 2023.**





# VCU

## School of Social Work

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School of Social Work

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Siegel Center  
floor plan/seating details