

# AEA/AEGSW NEWSLETTER

St. Kate's - St.Thomas School of Social Work

## 17-18 Year in Review

Members of our cohort participated in many community events, volunteer opportunities and learned about the myriad of ways to build a career in the field of gerontology.

## Fall 2017 Events

- Walk to End Alzheimer's
- Scholars join residents at Ebenezer Care Center for an evening of socializing and holiday decorating
- Blanket Drive

## Spring 2018 Events

- MSW Open House AEA Information Table
- Careers in Aging Day
- Minnesota Gerontological Society (MGS) Poster Presentations



## AEA/AEGSW 2017 - 2018 Cohort

**Congratulations scholars on completing another year!**  
**Thank you to all who made it such a success! Huge congrats to our graduating scholars.**

### Jane Crompton BSW '18

### Annika Grafstrom MSW '18

Clinical Research Paper: *Identifying and Mitigating Caregiver Burnout: The Role of Adult Day Social Workers*

### Morgan Hanley MSW '18

Clinical Research Paper: *Medical Social Workers' Best Practices in Supporting Autonomy at End-of-Life*

### Molli Slade MSW '18

Clinical Research Paper: *Choose Your Own Ending: An Arts-Informed Action Research on Creating a "Good Death"*

### Alexa Upton MSW '18

Clinical Research Paper: *Role of the Hospice Social Worker: Addressing Spiritual Care*

### Alison J. Waid Higgins MSW '18

Clinical Research Paper: *Effects of Animal-Assisted Therapy in Older Adults with Dementia*

# Fall 2017

## *Blanket Drive*

Alexa Upton MSW '18 spearheaded an AEA/AEGSW sponsored blanket drive that filled the donation box to overflowing!



## *MCDES Conference*

AEA scholar Molli Slade MSW '18 attended the fall conference for Minnesota Coalition for Death Education and Support (MCDES). Former AEA advisor Diane Bauer and AEA alum Florence Wright are on the board of directors. Molli wrote up the summary of the days events. The topic was Medical Aid in Dying and there were wonderful speakers covering the medical, psychosocial, and legal aspects of this topic.

## *Walk to End Alzheimer's*

Alison Waid, MSW '18 organized scholars, their friends and families to participate in Minnesota's Walk to End Alzheimer's during the Fall Semester. The event consisted of guest speakers and routes of both one mile and three miles. It was a beautiful day that brought together hundreds of volunteers and participants whose time and donations continue to seek a cure to end Alzheimer's. Close to \$1,500.00 was raised for the organization!



## *Ebenezer Care Center Volunteering Event*

We gathered at the Ebenezer Care Center under the experienced and enthusiastic eye of Jane Crompton, BSW '18 to help make holiday door swag decorations with residents.



# Spring 2018

## *Careers in Aging*

Following a nationwide effort to increase workforce development in the field of gerontology, AEA Scholars Emma Schedler, MSW '19 and Sunghwan Cho, MSW '19 took on the leadership role of collaborating with other interdisciplinary programs at St. Kate's to help put together a Careers in Aging event.



The day consisted of identical AM and PM sessions that started off with a career fair and ended with the "Aging With Gusto" workshop on ageism.



## *Minnesota Gerontological Society Conference*

Scholars attended MGS's annual conference. Morgan Hanley, MSW '18, Kassara Kneeland, MSW '19 and Molli Slade, MSW '18 all presented their 682 projects at the conference.



Scholar Kassara Kneeland received the MGS Gerald Bloedow scholarship that supports undergraduate and graduate students to further their education in gerontology. Congrats Kassara!

## Starting an alumni tradition of AEA/AEGSW scholars back on campus in 2017



Scenes from the 2nd annual AEA/AEGSW alumni gathering

### save the dates!

#### 3rd Annual AEA/AEGSW Alumni Gathering

May 16, 2019

5:30 - 7:00pm

#### Walk to End Alzheimer's

September 28, 2019

*Watch for emails about additional news & events!*

## Meet our current scholars...

For more AEA/AEGSW information, contact Tanya Rand, Coordinator of Aging Services, 651-962-5817, or by email at [tjrand@stthomas.edu](mailto:tjrand@stthomas.edu)



Sunghwan Cho  
MSW



Kassara Kneeland  
MSW



Stephanie Larson  
MSW



Jessica Miller  
MSW



Kari Nystul  
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Rachel Potter  
MSW



Katherine Quinn  
MSW



Emma Schedler  
MSW



Ashley Shoonover  
MSW



Sammi Witmer  
BSW

#### 2018-19 Area Emphasis Aging Scholars