



Johnson C. Smith University

School of Social Work

THE FOURTH ANNUAL

“MARCH IS SOCIAL WORK MONTH”

MARCH 2023

SOCIAL WORK
BREAKS BARRIERS



GREETINGS FROM DR. HELEN T. CALDWELL



Greetings,

As the Associate Dean of the School of Social Work in the College of Business and Professional Studies, it is my distinct pleasure to welcome you to the Fourth Annual “March Is Social Work Month” celebrations at Johnson C. Smith University. Recognized by the U.S. Congress in March 2016, “March Is Social Work Month” provides the distinct visibility and opportunity to express the uniqueness of the social work profession and spotlight the important contributions social workers make to society.

Each year Drs. Judith D. Crocker-Billingsley, Dezette C. Johnson and James T. Freeman plan exciting, thought-provoking events and topics in alignment with the national themes that exemplify the importance of the profession of Social Work. This year, you will find an array of in-person and virtual events hosted by the School of Social Work with the inclusion of national social work organizations, leaders, congressional social work legends and the involvement of social work faculty and students from several universities from across the globe. We are pleased that our well-prepared students are eager to participate in a variety of ways as we promote the Social Work profession.

On behalf of our School of Social Work, thank you for joining our meaningful events this month. I am confident that this celebration will be professionally beneficial to all.

Profoundly,

Dr. Helen T. Caldwell

Dean of the School of Social Work

College of Business and Professional Studies

MARCH 1, 2023 | N.C. ADVOCACY DAY

Raleigh, N.C.



NASW-NC will host “Social Work Advocacy Day,” giving students the opportunity to network with other BSW and MSW students from across North Carolina.

Attendees will also have the chance to practice their advocacy skills and learn about current state policies that impact the field of Social Work.

Transportation and lunch will be provided for JCSU students and School of Social Work faculty and staff. RSVP to Dr. Melvin Herring at mherring@jcsu.edu or Dr. Kareema Gray at kgray@jcsu.edu.

MARCH 2, 2023 | THE 2ND ANNUAL VIRTUAL “EXPLORING PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR BLACK MEN IN SOCIAL WORK”

[Virtual Session Link](#)



DR. JAMES T.
FREEMAN



DR. ANTHONY
ESTREET



DR. DARRIN
WRIGHT



DR. ANGELO
McCLAIN



EDOLPHUS
“ED” TOWNS

Men account for only 20 percent of social workers in the U.S. This virtual conversation

will highlight professional opportunities by Black men who are currently working in social work careers. Facilitated by Dr. James T. Freeman, Associate Professor of Social Work at Johnson C. Smith University MSW Program, featured guests will include Dr. Anthony Estreet, New Elect NASW CEO; Dr. Darrin Wright, Associate Professor, Director of Field Education at Clark Atlanta University’s School of Social Work and The Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors; Dr. Angelo McClain, former NASW CEO; and former Congressman Edolphus “Ed” Towns.

MARCH 7-9, 2023 | CONGRESSIONAL SOCIAL WORK EVENTS

Washington, D.C. - [Register to Attend](#)

The 4th Annual Congressional Social Work Roundtable (virtual) kicks off the congressional events on March 7. Sponsored by The Congressional Research Institute for Social Work and Policy, Social Work Day On the Hill celebrations on March 8 are in-person and will be attended by social workers nationwide and, on March 9, students will virtually participate in Student Advocacy Day On the Hill featuring JCSU BSW alumnus, Kenneth “K2” Hagler.

MARCH 21, 2023 | THE MECKLENBURG COUNTY DSS FOOD INSECURITY EVALUATION TEAM REPORT

[Virtual Session Link](#) | 1 to 2 p.m. EST

The onset of COVID-19 and virtual instruction in our local school system, as well as increased homelessness, exacerbated the need for our children regarding this basic human need. To strengthen service delivery, Mecklenburg County DSS utilized grant funds to implement a “No Kid Hungry Mecklenburg Food Security Program” (FS Program). The project was designed to coordinate nutrition support and the advancement toward the elimination of childhood hunger. Tune in to hear the findings of the Evaluation Team’s Report who are members of the School of Social Work in the College of Business and Professional Studies faculty at Johnson C. Smith University.

- ▶ Dr. Dezette Johnson, Associate Professor of Social Work
- ▶ Dr. Melvin Herring, Associate Professor of Social Work, MSW Program Director
- ▶ Dr. Judith D. Crocker Billingsley, Assistant Professor of Social Work
- ▶ Dr. Kareema Gray, Assistant Professor of Social Work, BSW Program Director
- ▶ Dr. David Luciano, Associate Professor of Social Work
- ▶ Dr. LaSonya Townsend, Assistant Professor of Social Work



DR. DEZETTE
JOHNSON



DR. MELVIN
HERRING



DR. JUDITH
BILLINGSLEY



DR. KAREEMA
GRAY



DR. DAVID
LUCIANO



DR. LASONYA
TOWNSEND

MARCH 23, 2023 | THE 5TH ANNUAL MENTAL HEALTH SYMPOSIUM

[Grimes Lounge - Register Here](#) | 8:30 a.m. to Noon

Learn more about Black men’s mental health and how to end stigma, promote wellness, and support healing.

- ▶ Tammie Elliott, MSW LCSWA LCASA, Founder
- ▶ Dr. James T. Freeman, LCSW MBAe, Associate Professor of Social Work
- ▶ A. Maurice Harvey, LCSW, LISW – CP
- ▶ Mario Jovan, MS. Ed
- ▶ O’Neil Walker LCSW-A

Registration via [EventBrite](#). Certificates of attendance will be available. For more information, contact tammieelliott9180@gmail.com



TAMMIE
ELLIOT



DR. JAMES T.
FREEMAN



A. MAURICE
HARVEY



MARIO
JOVAN



O’NEIL
WALKER

MARCH 24, 2023 | A NATIONAL TRIBUTE TO DR. MILDRED “MIT” JOYNER, NASW NATIONAL PRESIDENT

[Virtual Session Link](#) | 2 p.m.

Hosted by Dr. Helen T. Caldwell, Associate Dean of the School of Social Work in the



Dr. Mildred “Mit” Joyner

College of Business and Professional Studies, a tribute to the NASW National

President and will feature Steve Pemberton, nationally acclaimed author of “A Chance in the World” and “The Lighthouse Effect” as well as Dr. Yvonne Chase, the newly elected NASW president.



DR. HELEN T. CALDWELL



STEVE PEMBERTON



DR. YVONNE CHASE

MARCH 27, 2023 | THE SOCIAL POLICY DEBATE

[Virtual Session Link](#) | 6 p.m. EST

Moderated by Dr. Dezette Johnson (Johnson C. Smith University), this debate will feature Social Work students from Arizona State University, California State University (Fresno), Johnson C. Smith University and Mississippi State University.



DR. DEZETTE JOHNSON
JCSU



DR. ANGELA SAVAGE
MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY



DR. TANHEE BAKER
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY



DR. TRAVIS CRONIN
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY



DR. JUDITH CROCKER-BILLINGSLEY
JCSU

MARCH 29 - April 2, 2023 | THE ASSOCIATION OF BACCALAUREATE SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM DIRECTORS (BPD)

Birmingham, Ala.

Johnson C. Smith University School of Social Work faculty will be among Social Work scholars as featured speakers and guest panelists.

SOCIAL WORK FACULTY & STAFF



Dr. Alphonso Ogbuehi
*Dean of the College of
Business and Professional
Studies*



Dr. Helen T. Caldwell
*Associate Dean of the
School of Social Work in the
College of Business and
Professional Studies*



Ms. Belinda Meads
*Administrative Assistant to
the School of Social Work in
the College of Business and
Professional Studies*



Dr. Kareema Gray
*Assistant Professor, BSW
Chair and Program
Director
BSW Program*



Dr. Dezette Johnson
*Associate Professor and
Director of Field Education
BSW Program*



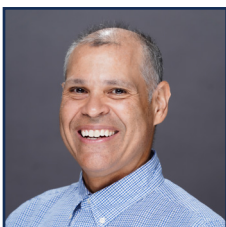
**Dr. Judith D. Crocker
Billingsley**
*Assistant Professor
BSW Program*



Dr. LaSonya Townsend
*Assistant Professor
BSW Program*



Dr. Melvin Herring
*Associate Professor and
Program Director
MSW Program*



Dr. David Luciano
*Associate Professor
MSW Program*



Dr. James T. Freeman
*Associate Professor
MSW Program*



Dr. LaToya Brooks
*Assistant Professor
MSW Program*



Ms. Nicole Donovan-Kidd
*Director of Field Education
MSW Program*

MARCH IS SOCIAL WORK MONTH

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Dr. Judith D. Crocker Billingsley, Assistant Professor of Social Work, BSW Program
Dr. Dezette Johnson, Associate Professor of Social Work, Director of Field Education BSW Program
Dr. James T. Freeman, Associate Professor of Social Work MSW Program
Dr. Helen T. Caldwell, Associate Dean of School of Social Work
Ms. Sherri Belfield, Director of Communications and Marketing

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Gabrielle Isaac Allison, Assistant Director of Communications and Marketing (Media Relations)
The National Chapter of The National Association of Social Work (NASW)

THE DOROTHY I. HEIGHT SOCIAL WORK SCHOLARSHIP FUND AT JOHNSON C. SMITH UNIVERSITY



DR. DOROTHY I. HEIGHT
SOCIAL WORK PIONEER

Dr. Height established the Center for Racial Justice and became one of the leading figures of the Civil Rights Movement and collaborated with Martin Luther King Jr., A. Philip Randolph, Roy Wilkins, Whitney Young, Jr., John Lewis, and James Farmer on different initiatives such as the March on Washington. Please show your support for Johnson C. Smith University's School of Social Work by making a gift to the Dorothy I. Height Scholarship fund today. All proceeds go to award scholarships to undergraduate and graduate social work students.

**TEXT HEIGHT21 TO
704.452.4107 TO GIVE**



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