

VIRGINIA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM

Members of the Community Advisory Board

Delpheon Davis, MA, Resident in Counseling | Associate Director of Services, Virginia Supportive Housing

Tanisha Davis '03, MA | Director of Family & Community Support Services, Virginia Beach Community Development Corporation

Brandon Foster '19, MSW, Supervisee in Social Work | Therapist, Virginia Wesleyan University Counseling Services

Terry Kenworthy '07, MSW, LCSW | Licensed Clinician I, Chesapeake Juvenile Services

BSW Program Highlights

- In August 2024, April Christman, BSW '14, MSW, LCSW, CCTP was hired as Assistant Professor of Social Work and Field Education Coordinator.
- Began program transition from the Council on Social Work Education 2015 Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards (EPAS) to 2022 EPAS.
- Increased minimum internship hour requirement to 448 hours.

Faculty Highlights

- In December 2024, Professor Christman presented to the Medical Master's and Master's of Public Health students at the Macon & Joan Brock Virginia Health Sciences (formerly EVMS) on opioid use disorders and treatment protocols.
- Professor Christman and Dr. Dobrin's presentation, "Meeting the growing mental health demand during times of high crisis and low resource availability, through a public health lens," was accepted by the NASW VA and Metro DC 2025 Annual Conference.
- Professor Christman and fellow VWU faculty members, Dr. Jill Sturts and Dr. Derek Whaley's, panel abstract "Supporting New Faculty Through Effective Mentorship," was accepted by the 2025 The Academy of Leisure Sciences Research and Teaching Conference.



Student Highlights

- Fall Practicum opportunities included: Child and Youth Behavioral Health PCIT Program City of Virginia Beach, Golden Lifestyle Partners, Saint Gregory the Great Outreach & Advocacy Program, Youth Mentor Program at Haygood United Methodist Church
- Spring Internship placements include: ODU Community Care Clinic, Chesapeake Bay Academy, Chesapeake Juvenile Services, and Virginia Beach Community Development Corporation
- Senior, Meadow Spears '25, developed and co-facilitated two therapy groups offered at Haygood United Methodist Church with Professor Christman. One group for teens sought to enhance emotional awareness and regulation skills, while the second group designed for mother/daughter pairs fostered improved communication and strengthened relationships.
- Senior, Samantha Tortorice '25, completed REVIVE Narcan Certification in October 2024.
- Senior, Samantha Silvia '25, has been selected by the Network for Undergraduate Research in Virginia to present her poster "Race, Class, and the Medicalization of Menopause" at the Inaugural Undergraduate Showcase in the General Assembly Building in February 2025.