

The Wayne Together Collaborative (WTC) began in 2014 as a partnership between the Wayne State University School of Social Work, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and private provider agencies in Wayne County. Students are financially supported through a stipend and mentored through the successful transition to a professional career in child welfare.



Contact Us

Wayne State University, School of Social Work
5447 Woodward Avenue
Detroit, MI 48202

Anwar Najor-Durack, Ph.D.
ac1724@wayne.edu

Joanne Sobeck, Ph.D.
ab1350@wayne.edu



School of Social Work
socialwork.wayne.edu



michigan.gov/mdhhs

 **99%**
WAYNE TOGETHER
COLLABORATIVE
GRADUATES
are EMPLOYED in
CHILD WELFARE



**WAYNE
TOGETHER**

*Child Welfare Learning &
Leadership Collaborative*



What are our objectives?

- Increase the number of competent M.S.W. graduates specializing in practice with child welfare populations impacted by poverty and trauma in metropolitan Detroit
- Increase DHHS workforce retention rates by focusing on factors that influence recruitment, retention and competencies
- Build the capacity of the WTC to support the transition of student to child welfare professional and long-term careers



What strategies are we using?

WSU Students

- Child welfare courses
- Field placements with rotations in different settings
- Monthly lunch & learn
- Individual development plans
- Group mentoring

WTC Steering Committee

- WSU team
- DHHS representatives
- Private provider agencies

DHHS Workforce

- Professional development
- Team building
- Understanding and addressing regional factors that impact child welfare practice

What will we achieve?

- ➔ 75 students with child welfare knowledge and skills prepared for practice
- ➔ 100% of students remain in child welfare
- ➔ Over 75% of DHHS workers impacted by the WTC programs

What are our next steps?

- Pre-education and recruitment pipeline
- Information sharing via the web and social media
- Supporting and connecting our WTC graduates through 2025
- Continued collaborations with agency partners

