

**THE COALITION OF BLACK SOCIAL WORKERS'  
6TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE**



**ELEVATING OUR POWER, ADVANCING LIBERATION**

**MARCH 6, 2026**



**MOUNT ZION CHURCH, ANTIOCH CAMPUS**

**2261 MURFREESBORO PIKE**

**NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37217**

**8:30 AM**

# MISSION STATEMENT

THE COALITION OF BLACK SOCIAL WORKERS EXISTS TO **ENGAGE**, **CONNECT**, AND **EMPOWER** BLACK SOCIAL WORK STUDENTS AND PROFESSIONALS.



## CORE VALUES

**BLACK EXCELLENCE:** WE PRODUCE EXCELLENCE IN THE FACE OF SYSTEMIC OPPRESSION AND ADVERSITY. WE ARE INTELLIGENT. WE ARE RESILIENT. WE ARE STRONG. WE PURSUE EXCELLENCE IN OUR PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE OF SOCIAL WORK AND IN OUR PERSON PURSUIT OF SELF-CARE. WE RISE AND PROSPER AGAINST ALL ODDS.

**MENTORING:** WE BELIEVE IN THE IMPORTANCE OF RELATIONSHIPS. MENTORING REPRESENTS A LIFE-LONG PURSUIT OF KNOWLEDGE AND A DESIRE TO GROW. WE ENCOURAGE MENTORING AT EVERY STAGE IN YOUR CAREER, WITH A STRONG EMPHASIS ON STUDENT TO PROFESSIONAL MENTORING.

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** WE BELIEVE IN LEARNING FROM BLACK LEADERS AND CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR BLACK SOCIAL WORKERS TO SHARE THEIR EXPERTISE WITH OTHERS. WE ARE COMMITTED TO PROFESSIONAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT, AND WE UNDERSTAND THAT REPRESENTATION MATTERS WHEN SEEKING PROFESSIONAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES.

**NETWORKING:** WE BELIEVE IN CONNECTING INDIVIDUALS IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITH ACCESS TO RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITIES. NETWORKING ALLOWS US TO EXPAND OUR REACH, SHARE OUR RESOURCES, AND SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER PROFESSIONALLY.

**COMMUNITY:** WE BELIEVE IN THE POWER OF COMMUNITY. WE BELIEVE THAT WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER. WE BELIEVE IN SERVING AND INVESTING IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY.

# 2026 CBSW LEADERSHIP

## DR. CARMEN REESE FOSTER

LMSW, LSSW

CBSW Founder and Executive Director



Dr. Carmen Reese Foster (she/her) is currently the MSW Program Director and Assistant Professor at Belmont University. She is also the Founder and Executive Director of the Coalition of Black Social Workers, which exists to engage, connect, and empower Black social work students and professionals. Prior to transitioning into higher education, Carmen's social work practice experience focused on working with youth and families from marginalized communities. Her research areas include race-based trauma, mental health, community well-being (self-care), and resilience. Her work on these topics has been published in the *Tennessean*, the *Journal of Ethnic and Cultural Diversity in Social Work*, the *Conversation*, and the *Field Educator*. Dr. Reese Foster was the 2023 NASW-TN Social Worker of the Year.

# CBSW LEADERSHIP (CONT.)

## BOARD MEMBERS

Charlsey Gibson, *LMSW*  
Board Chair

Erica Gentry, *LCSW*  
Board Chair Elect

Mai Ferrell, *LCSW, LADAC II, CCTP*  
Vice-Chair

Amaad Dowdell, *MSW*  
Financial Director

Maryam Abdallah, *LCSW*  
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Kenya Anderson, *LMSW*

Jaha Martin, *LCSW*

Dr. Gary Jones



## AMBASSADORS



Briel Thompson, *LMSW, CCM*



Dr. Jenice Thompson



Dr. Kevin Haggard, Jr.

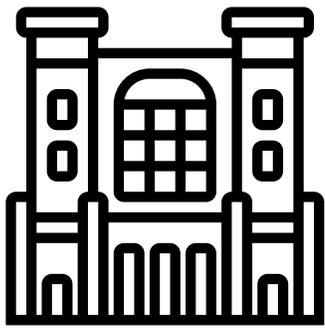


Dr. LaSharia Turner

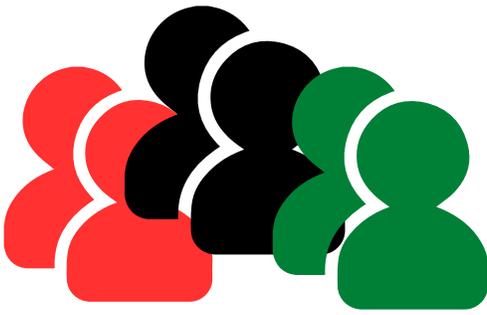


Toni Kelly, *LCSW*

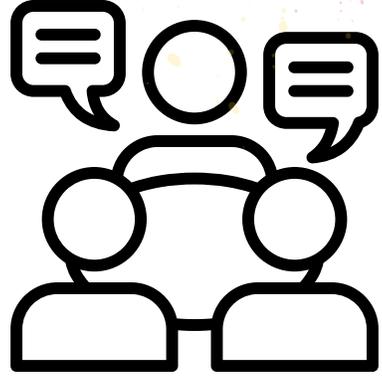
# CBSW at a glance



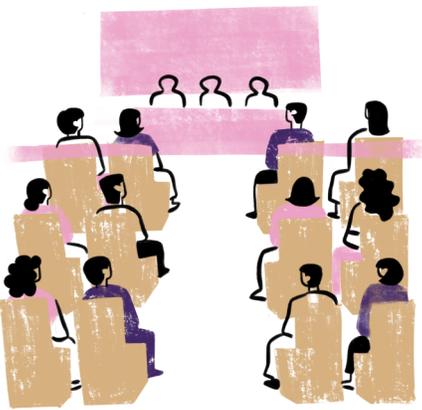
4 CAMPUS CHAPTERS



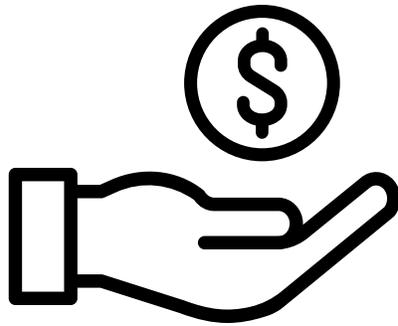
105 MEMBERS



30 MENTORSHIP PAIRS



4 TRAININGS PER YEAR  
(including Ethics)



\$8,500 GIVEN AWAY IN  
SCHOLARSHIPS



PAID INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



PRE-LICENSURE SUPPORT FOR PROFESSIONALS

# THANK YOU TO OUR 2026 SPONSORS

BLACK LEVEL



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School of Social Work



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LIPSCOMB  
UNIVERSITY



nasw



# THANK YOU TO THE 2026 CBSW CONFERENCE COMMITTEE



Briel Thompson, *Co-Chair*  
LMSW, CCM



Dr. Carmen Reese Foster, *Co-Chair*  
LMSW, LSSW



Amaad Dowdell  
MSW



Jaha Martin  
LCSW



Kim Jordan Page  
LCSW



LaTamera Woodley  
MSSW



Erica Gentry  
LCSW



Charlsey Gibson  
LMSW



NaKayla Yancey  
University of Memphis  
CBSW Student Board Rep

It's time for us to **RISE UP**.

This year's conference theme centers on hope—on recognizing the power within us and leaning fully into our God-given greatness. When we truly understand who we are, we move differently. We walk with purpose. We lead with intention. We stop dimming our light. This is our moment to walk as a liberated people. **UpRISE**.

May today fill your mind with knowledge, your heart with community, and your spirit with restoration. May your nervous system settle. May you remember to slow down and breathe. You are safe. You are valued. You are necessary.

The Coalition of Black Social Workers exists to engage, connect, and empower Black social work students and professionals. May you feel deeply inspired and renewed by that mission today.

I would like to say a special word of thanks to the CBSW Conference Committee, who has worked behind the scenes for the last 11 months to curate a day full of excellence just for you. The team that we have is passionate, invested, and considers you every step of the way. We are so glad you are here!



With deep gratitude,

Dr. Carmen Reese Foster, LMSW, LSSW  
Founder and Executive Director

# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

## LINK UP AND BREAKFAST

8:30 AM

*Catered by Pepper Pot*

## WELCOME & OCCASION

9:05 AM

Dr. Carmen Reese Foster, *LMSW, LSSW: CBSW Founder and ED*

Charlsey Gibson, *LMSW: CBSW Board Chair*

## BLACK SPONSOR MOMENT

9:15 AM

Introduction by Briel Thompson, Conference Co-Chair

## SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

## ONE WILLCO

## GROUNDING MOMENT: BLACK

9:25 AM

## NATIONAL ANTHEM

Dwight Johnson

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER INTRODUCTION

9:30 AM

Jaha Martin, LCSW

Board of Directors

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER

## REV. DAMIEN DURR

Chicago, IL

## WORKSHOP SESSION A

10:45 AM

### A. Towards an AuFuture: Re-thinking Autistic Interventions beyond ABA

Krishana Overstreet, LCSW and Monique "Moe" Butler - Room 152

*\*Clinical, Ethics (Chattanooga, TN)*

### B. The Assessment Missed Me

Dr. Mirissa Jackson, LCSW- Room 155

*\*Clinical (Severn, MD)*

### C. Big Problems, Personal Power: Confronting Inequities Through a Black Maternal Health Lens

Dr. Chenita Rountree, LCSW, LCAS - Teen Auditorium

*\*Clinical, Leadership, Well-being (Durham, NC)*

### D. UpRISE for Health Justice: Macro & Ethical Responses to Racialized Healthcare Disparities

Dr. Edonna McBride - Children's Classroom

*\*Macro, Ethics (Menifee, CA)*

### E. FULL MEMBERS ONLY: Meet & Greet with Damien Durr

Sanctuary

# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE (CONT.)

## LUNCH, LINE DANCES, PHOTOS

11:35-1:15 PM

*Catered by Pepper Pot*

*Line Dances led by Dr. Jenice Thompson (start time: 12:40)*

## POSTER PRESENTATIONS

12:30 PM

### A. When Money Hurts: Exploring Financial Trauma and Collective Healing

*Dr. Alicia Tetteh, LCSW, CFSW, RYT-200 (Norfolk, VA)*

### B. Time to Talk About Trauma: Breaking the Pattern of Suffering in Silence

*Keisha Pickens, LMSW (Tuscaloosa, AL)*

### C. From Womb to Wellness: Rituals, Rest, and Reproductive Liberation in Black Birthing Spaces

*Ricki Martin, LMSW (Memphis, TN)*

## SCHOLARSHIP & AWARDS PRESENTATION

1:00PM

*The James & Elaine Reese Legacy Scholarship*

*Social Worker on the Rise, Mentor of the Year, Friend of the CBSW, Social Worker of the Year,*

*Distinguished Service Award*

## PANEL INTRODUCTION

1:15 PM

*Dr. Carmen Reese Foster, LMSW, LSSW*

### PANEL - SEASONED AND UNFILTERED: A CIRCLE OF WISDOM

*Sandra Abdullah, LCSW, Dr. Jewell Brazelton, Joyce Harris, LCSW, and Dr. Mary Harris, DSW, LMSW, BSW*

*Dr. Gary Jones (Moderator)*

## WORKSHOP SESSION B

2:30 PM

### A. The Power of Uprising: Centering Black Healing and Liberation

*Jaha Martin, LCSW - Room 152*

*\*Clinical (Nashville, TN)*

### B. I'm NOT Your Superwoman: Examining Societal Stereotypes and Their Effects on Black Women's Health

*Dr. Patrice Reese, LMSW- Room 155*

*\*Clinical, Macro (Bessemer, AL)*

### C. Rooted and Rising: Wellness, Belonging, and Success for Black Doctoral Social Work Students

*Dr. Curtis Davis, Dr. LaSharia Turner, Dr. Sherron Wilkes, Dr. Vanessa Dooley--Teen Auditorium*

*\*Leadership, Well-being (Birmingham, AL, Dallas, TX, Boston, MA)*

### D. Rooted & Rising: Reclaiming Wellness Through Gardening as Agricultural Liberation, Self-Care and Economic Empowerment

*Stephanie Guster, LCSW - Children's Classroom*

*\*Ethics, Well-being (Collegedale, TN)*

# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE (CONT.)

## Workshop Session C

3:30 PM

### A. Radical Rest & Resistance: Mental Wellness as Liberation

*Dr. Whitney Gray- Room 152*

*\*Well-being (Atlanta, GA)*

### B. The Job is Yours: Go Get it!

*Kim Page, LCSW - Room 155*

*\*Clinical, Leadership, Macro (Whites Creek, TN)*

### C. The Sustainable Black Social Worker: Business Tools for Lasting Legacy

*Maryam Abdallah, LCSW and Chris Afotey, MBA - Teen Auditorium*

*\*Leadership (Nashville, TN)*

### D. From Crisis to Catalyst: Reimagining Wellness in Black Communities through Policy, Systems, and Environmental Change

*Kenneth Bourne, Jr., LSW - Children's Classroom*

*\*Macro, Well-being (Gainesville, FL)*

## Closing Ceremony

4:30 PM

Door Prizes

Releasing Moment

*Maryam Abdallah, LCSW, Founder of I AM Well Consulting*



# GROUP PHOTOS

<b>10:32 AM</b>	<b>D9 &amp; School SW</b>
<b>11:42 AM</b>	<b>Medical SW &amp; HBCU Grads</b>
<b>12 PM</b>	<b>CBSW BOARD &amp; Conference Committee</b>
<b>12:40 PM</b>	<b>MACRO SW &amp; Therapists</b>
<b>12:45 PM</b>	<b>Students &amp; Non-Traditional SW</b>



# KEYNOTE SPEAKER

## Reverend Damien Durr



Damien Durr is a native of Cleveland, Ohio he attended American Baptist College (B.A.), and Vanderbilt University (M.DIV). As a Presidential Scholar at ABC, and Kelly Miller Smith Fellow at Vanderbilt. He helped facilitate various initiatives, discussions and community engagement activities involving childhood education, the juvenile justice system, the prison industrial complex, the cradle to prison pipeline and the role of Black Church and hip-hop culture.

He served in the Metro Nashville Public School System as a social and emotional specialist & mentor to multiple African American boys. His undergraduate and graduate work has been incorporated through programs and published works via: The Haynes Middle School Mentoring Program, The Bishop Michael Lee Graves Leadership Academy, Abington Press, he has also co-produced numerous documentaries addressing the role of the church and intellectual in the Black community.

He served as a former community engagement facilitator with the Children's Defense Fund Nashville Team and served as the former Executive Director of Faith Formula Human Services and Executive Pastor of Community Development at Friendship-West Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas. He is currently the President of the Gus Newport Project and Chief Operating Officer of the Samuel Dewitt Proctor Conference in Chicago, IL and founder of DCD Empowerment LLC.

# WORKSHOPS

## SESSION A: 10:45–11:35 AM



### **Big Problems, Personal Power: Confronting Inequities Through a Black Maternal Lens**

Dr. Chenita Rountree, LCSW, LCAS

Room 152

Black maternal health disparities reveal the deep intersections of race, gender, and systemic oppression. This workshop utilizes Black maternal health as a case study to explore how social workers can address and disrupt inequities across healthcare and other social systems. Participants will examine historical and structural factors that shape oppression, reflect on their own positionality, and engage with critical consciousness as a tool for meaningful action. Through interactive discussion and case-based learning, attendees will gain strategies to advocate for equity and justice, not only for Black birthing communities but for all marginalized groups impacted by systemic harm.



### **The Assessment That Missed Me**

Dr. Mirissa Jackson, LCSW-C

Room 155

This workshop interrogates the limitations of standard diagnostic tools in accurately capturing the emotional realities of Black women. Participants will explore how tools like the DSM often pathologize culturally normative behaviors while failing to account for systemic and intergenerational trauma (Legha & Miranda, 2020). Through case examples and collective dialogue, we will uncover how misdiagnosis and omission perpetuate harm. The session invites practitioners to reimagine culturally grounded, affirming assessment practices that center the voices and lived experiences of Black women clients (Taylor & Evans, 2025).



### **Towards an AuFuture: Re-thinking Autistic Interventions beyond ABA**

Krishana Overstreet, LCSW, and Monique "Moe" Butler

Teen Auditorium

Applied Behavioral Analysis remains the dominant intervention for autistic individuals despite concerns from autistic self-advocates about its coercive, trauma-inducing nature especially for marginalized communities. Our session presents trauma-informed, evidence-based, and neurodiversity-affirming alternatives that align with social work values of autonomy, cultural responsiveness, and holistic care. Grounded in liberation ethics and disability justice, the session challenges professionals to shift from an ableist perspective of "fixing" and "managing" autism to creating empowering, inclusive environments where neurodivergent individuals can thrive.



### **UpRise for Health Justice: Macro & Ethical Responses to Racialized Healthcare Disparities**

Dr. Edonna McBride, MPA

Children's Classroom

This interactive workshop examines healthcare disparities through a macro and ethical social work lens. Keeping in line with the UpRISE theme, we will examine the structural and systemic factors perpetuating health inequities in Black communities. Participants will be introduced to advocacy strategies and tools like the "My B.A.D." (Black Advance Directive) framework and engage in collaborative activities to develop ethical, liberation-centered solutions.

### **Meet and Greet with Damien Durr - FULL MEMBERS ONLY**

Sanctuary

# WORKSHOPS (CONT.)

## SESSION B: 2:30–3:20 PM



### **The Power of Uprising: Centering Black Healing and Liberation**

Jaha Martin, LCSW  
Room 152

This session helps social workers understand the links between Black healing, liberation, resistance, and uprising, with an emphasis on history and collective practices. The workshop highlights Black experiences and cultural approaches in trauma-informed, anti-oppressive work. Participants will learn strategies for healing justice, combating systemic racism, and applying liberatory methods in their roles and communities.



### **I'm NOT Your Superwoman: Examining Societal Stereotypes and Their Effects on Black Women's Health**

Dr. Patrice Reese, LMSW  
Room 155

Societal Stereotypes have had a negative impact on Black Women's health. Black women are dying from several chronic illness that when properly managed are not fatal. We must explore the journey from "Mammy", "Welfare Queen" to "Superwoman" to better understand the medical community's response or lack thereof to these common healthcare disparities. We will take back our power through fully understanding the stigma associated with these stereotypes, as well as ways to re-establish appropriate concern from relevant stakeholders.



### **Rooted and Rising: Wellness, Belonging, and Success for Black Doctoral Social Work Students**

Dr. Curtis Davis, Dr. Vanessa Dooley, and Dr. LaSharia Turner  
Teen Auditorium

This panel centers the experiences of Black doctoral social work students and graduates, spanning both Doctor of Social Work (DSW) and PhD programs. Panelists will share strategies for wellness, overcoming imposter syndrome, navigating academic demands, and building community support, with attention to DSW program growth, accreditation, and evolving career pathways. The discussion will highlight the importance of family, mentorship, and collective care in sustaining success. Attendees will gain practical insights, lessons learned, and resources to support themselves or others in doctoral education and leadership, advancing Black excellence across clinical, macro, academic, and leadership spaces.



### **Rooted & Rising: Reclaiming Wellness Through Gardening as Agricultural Liberation, Self-Care and Economic Empowerment**

Stephanie Guster, LCSW  
Children's Classroom

Amid rising food costs and growing inequities, social workers often prioritize others' well-being while neglecting their own. This interactive workshop reimagines gardening as a radical act of self-care, environmental justice, and economic resilience. Grounded in the NASW's ethical mandate for self-care and CSWE's focus on environmental justice, participants will explore the impact of food injustice, identify common barriers, and uncover creative, accessible solutions. Through hands-on activities and collaborative dialogue, attendees will develop a personalized action plan—planting the seeds for their own agricultural liberation and reconnecting with land as a source of healing, power, and possibility.

# WORKSHOPS (CONT.)

## SESSION C: 3:30–4:20 PM



### **Radical Rest & Resistance: Mental Wellness as Liberation**

Dr. Whitney Gray  
Room 152

This workshop and panel reclaims rest, emotional healing, and boundary-setting as radical tools for liberation and wellness. Attendees will explore how generational trauma, burnout, and the "strong Black" stereotype impact mental health in Black communities. Through an interactive session and lived-experience panel discussion, participants will learn culturally grounded healing strategies and mental wellness techniques that promote personal and collective power.



### **The Job is Yours: Go Get It!**

Kim Page, LCSW  
Room 155

As an experienced practitioner in reviewing resumes and conducting interviews, I have observed common issues with resumes. Resumes often fail to convey the full extent of an individual's skills, and many candidates struggle with anxiety during interviews. Effective preparation, including tailoring resumes to specific positions and thorough interview preparation, can significantly reduce anxiety and improve self-presentation. In this workshop, I will offer guidance on designing resumes that serve as professional introductions, highlighting qualifications, skills, and accomplishments. Furthermore, we will explore strategies for showcasing one's fit for the role during interviews, equipping participants with the tools needed to successfully navigate the hiring process.



### **The Sustainable Black Social Worker: Business Tools for Lasting Legacy**

Maryam Abdallah, LCSW, and Chris Afotey, MBA  
*Teen Auditorium*

The worlds of social work and business are often seen as separate, but a new generation of practitioners are proving they can be powerful partners. "The Social Work Executive: Blending Compassion and Business Acumen" is a dynamic and interactive training workshop designed to equip social workers with the essential business skills needed to create sustainable and impactful practices. This workshop moves beyond traditional paradigms to show you how core social work values can be strengthened, not compromised, by sound business principles that empower Black Social Workers to build generational wealth.



### **From Crisis to Catalyst: Reimagining Wellness in Black Communities through Policy, Systems, and Environmental Change**

Kenneth Bourne, Jr.  
*Children's Classroom*

In a time when policies restrict truth, equity, and safety—especially for Black students—we must respond with bold, systems-level strategies. This session explores how to shift from short-term, individual interventions to sustainable, healing-centered approaches rooted in policy, systems, and environmental change. Drawing from lived experience and professional practice, participants will be challenged to reimagine wellness, confront systemic harm, and design transformative solutions that center Black joy, safety, and power. This is not just theory—it's a call to action for lasting, liberatory change.

# POSTER PRESENTATIONS



## **When Money Hurts: Exploring Financial Trauma and Collective Healing**

Dr. Alicia Tetteh, *LCSW, CFSW, RYT-200* (Norfolk, VA)



## **Time to Talk About Trauma: Breaking the Pattern of Suffering in Silence**

Keisha Pickens, *LMSW* (Tuscaloosa, AL)



## **From Womb to Wellness: Rituals, Rest, and Reproductive Liberation in Black Birthing Spaces**

Ricki Martin, *LMSW* (Memphis, TN)

# AFTERNOON PANEL

## SEASONED AND UNFILTERED: A CIRCLE OF WISDOM



**Sandra Abdullah, LCSW**



**Dr. Jewell Brazelton**



**Joyce Harris, LCSW**



**Dr. Marry Harris, DSW, LMSW, BSW**



**MODERATED BY DR. GARY JONES**

# JAMES AND ELAINE REESE LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP



The James and Elaine Reese Legacy Scholarship is named after our founder's parents to honor their commitment to education and social justice. This scholarship will be awarded annually to a social work student who is a full member of the CBSW and demonstrates academic excellence, service to the community, and leadership potential.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, the children of James and Elaine Reese, including Dr. Carmen Reese Foster, our Executive Director, and Deanna Reese, LCSW, who is also an active member of the CBSW, we are honored to support the educational pursuit and advancement of Black social work students.

To date, the CBSW has awarded over \$8,500 in scholarships.



*Donate to the Scholarship Fund*

## A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE CBSW SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

**Kenya Anderson, Chair**

*LMSW*  
Memphis, TN

**Latoya Ewert**  
*LMSW*  
Clarksville, TN

**Stephanie Guster**  
*MSW, LCSW*  
Chattanooga, TN

**Dr. Keena Friday**  
*MBA*  
Memphis, TN

**Dr. Kevin Haggard, Jr**  
Nashville, TN

**2026**

**JAMES AND ELAINE REESE LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP  
WINNERS**



**DeMecia Wooten-Irizarry**

Walden University  
*DSW*



**NaKayla Yancey**

University of Memphis  
*MSW*



**Juanita Sampson**

Southern Adventist University  
*BSW*

# CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2026 CBSW AWARD WINNERS



## **Distinguished Service Award**

Dr. Mary Harris, *DSW, LMSW, BSW*



## **Social Worker of the Year**

Maryam Abdallah, *LCSW*



## **Mentor of the Year**

Hayley J. Barnes, *LCSW*



## **Social Worker on the Rise**

Briel Thompson, *LMSW, CCM, CAIP, CGP*



## **Friend of the CBSW**

Dr. Laura Racovita, *PhD, MSW*

# CAMPUS CHAPTERS

The CBSW started with an emphasis on providing support to Black social work students by connecting them to professionals who care deeply about empowering students and cultivating community with the Black social work community.

- There are currently 4 authorized campus chapters of the CBSW at The University of Tennessee (Knoxville, Nashville, and Online campuses), The University of Memphis (Memphis and Lambuth, TN campuses), Southern Adventist University (Chattanooga, TN), and Belmont University (Nashville, TN). However, students from any campus across the country can join and participate in events. Currently, our student membership has students from Tennessee State University, Fisk University, Campbellsville University, and Alabama A&M University.

***If students have enough interest on their campus and would like to start a CBSW Chapter, then please use the QR code below to complete our Interest Form.***



The University of Memphis



Southern Adventist University



Belmont University



The University of Tennessee



**INTEREST FORM**

# INTERESTED IN MENTORING A BSW OR MSW STUDENT IN THE COALITION?

## Mentorship Guidelines

“Sands, Parson, and Duane (1991) noted there are four general functions of a mentor: a friend who serves an interpersonal function; a career guide who promotes professional insight; an information source who provides practical advice about academic expectations; and an intellectual guide who can offer constructive criticism about empirical pursuits.”

## Steps to a Match

The CBSW initiates the matching process by looking over mentorship applications. Once you receive your email from the CBSW, here are the steps to take:

1. The mentee will contact the mentor and set up a time for an initial meeting.
2. After the initial meeting, if both parties agree to start a mentoring relationship, then the student or professional will email our Mentoring Specialist, Latoya Ewert, to let her know that they have a match!
3. After the initial meeting, if both parties decide it is not a good fit, then the student will email and ask for other recommendations.



**Become a mentor today!**  
**Use the QR code to sign-up.**



## Mentorship Expectations

- **One point of contact per month** during the student’s school year. A point of contact can be defined as a phone call to check-in, meet for coffee, attend a training together, etc.
- Availability to answer questions, give advice, and offer support.
- Commitment of **one year** with your student.

## Benefits of Mentoring

- Enhancement of leadership and coaching skills
- An opportunity to give back to the community and to the profession
- Satisfaction from sharing wisdom and experience without a significant time commitment
- Increased productivity due to increased satisfaction
- Opportunity to stay up to date with current trends in the profession

# JOIN THE CBSW!



## MEMBERSHIP DUES

Step 1: Choose your membership type: FULL or FRIEND

Step 2: Choose your membership level: BLACK, PLATINUM, or GOLD



### BLACK

- VIP Meet & Greet with Keynote Speaker at Conference
- Early access and a **20%** discount applied to all professional development trainings (including the conference)
- Annual CBSW swag gift
- Professional Networking: Opportunity to publish blog posts or articles through the CBSW website or social media platforms
- Access to recorded trainings
- Eligible for CBSW Awards (FULL)
- Recognition as a member in the Annual Report

**\$150**

per year (\$12.50/month)



### PLATINUM

- Basic **10%** Member Discount on trainings and events
- Professional Networking: Opportunity to publish blog posts or articles through the CBSW website or social media platforms
- Access to recorded trainings
- Eligible for CBSW Awards (FULL)

**\$100**

per year (\$8.33/month)



### GOLD

- Basic **10%** Member Discount on trainings and events
- Eligible for CBSW Awards (FULL)

**\$80**

per year (\$6.67/month)



### STUDENT

- Early access and a **20%** discount applied to all professional development trainings (including the conference)
- Eligible for CBSW Scholarship (FULL)
- Eligible for CBSW Student Board Member (FULL)
- Eligible for CBSW Internship

**\$25**

per year (\$2.08/month)

For a full listing of benefits, visit [thebsw.org/membership](http://thebsw.org/membership)



The CBSW exists to engage, connect and empower Black social work students and professionals.

A woman in a teal dress is celebrating with her arms raised, surrounded by a shower of colorful confetti. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**CBSW  
7th Annual  
Conference**

**March 5, 2027  
Nashville, TN**

# KEEP IN TOUCH

## ENGAGE

BECOME A MENTOR

START A **CAMPUS CHAPTER**

SHARE YOUR EXPERTISE AS A **SPEAKER**

SERVE ON A **COMMITTEE**

PARTICIPATE IN **SOCIAL, NETWORKING, AND COMMUNITY EVENTS**

## CONNECT



THE COALITION OF  
BLACK SOCIAL WORKERS



@THECBSW



THECBSW.ORG

CONTACT DR. CARMEN REESE FOSTER AT [CFOSTER@THECBSW.ORG](mailto:CFOSTER@THECBSW.ORG) FOR MORE INFORMATION



## EMPOWER



CLICK TO [DONATE!](#)

