

Abigayle Brooks, LMSW

Curriculum Vitae
abbrooks2@wisc.edu

Education

Social Welfare PhD	University of Wisconsin-Madison	May 2029
MSW	The University of Texas at Arlington Concentration in Community and Administrative Practice	August 2021
Honors BSW	The University of Texas at Arlington Minor in Spanish	May 2020
Study Abroad Student	ASLI Spanish Language Institute, Cuernavaca, Mexico	July 2019

Research and Career Interests

Poverty; Poverty Alleviation; Social Policy; Populations of Color; International Populations; Program and Policy Evaluation; Policy Advocacy; Increasing Functioning and Wellbeing

Research Experience

Project Assistant May 2025- Present

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, Wisconsin

- Code interviews describing the lived experiences of SSI recipients
- Participate in the creation of analytic codes and paper outline

Project Assistant February 2025- August 2025

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, Wisconsin

- Code interviews to inform recommendations for improving the unemployment insurance application process

Masters Thesis August 2021

How Long-Term Case Management Can Decrease Poverty

Supervising Professor: Dr. Rachel Joy Voth Schrag

Committee Members: Dr. Richard Hoefer, Dr. Marcela Nava

- Interviews and surveys with clients and case managers of long-term case management programs to obtain their opinions on how case management and outside resources can be improved
- Presented at the Oklahoma Social Work Summit in March 2024
- <http://hdl.handle.net/10106/29996>

Undergraduate Honors Senior Thesis

May 2020

How Social Service Organizations Respond to Barriers to Latino Immigrant Employment

Advisor: Dr. Marcela Nava

- An exploratory survey on what services Dallas- Fort Worth organizations provide that respond to barriers to Latino employment and their opinions on these barriers
 - Presented virtually at the Honors Research Symposium in May 2020
 - <https://youtu.be/yJ8xvYtKPJA>
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Professional Experience

Therapist

November 2023 - April 2024

Daybreak Family Services, Tulsa, Oklahoma

- Provided individual and family mental health counseling for elementary school students

Women's Counselor

September 2021- November 2023

Palmer Continuum of Care, Tulsa, Oklahoma

- Served as a substance abuse therapist for pregnant or parenting mothers in a residential setting with an average caseload of 3-5 clients
- Conducted assessments including intake, treatment plan, and discharge paperwork for clients
- Collaborated with child welfare workers, probation officers, and drug court coordinators to facilitate successful client treatment and child reunification
- Planned and facilitated group sessions covering topics such as trauma, self-esteem, or domestic violence and orchestrated connections with community organizations to lead group sessions

Housing Case Aid

July 2020- May 2021

SafeHaven of Tarrant County, Fort Worth, Texas

- Assisted survivors of domestic violence with finding and applying for permanent housing
- Conducted intake interviews of new clients in both English and Spanish
- Inspected apartments to ensure they met HUD minimum standards

Residential Assistant

August 2018- May 2019

The University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, Texas

- Oversaw 30 freshman honors college students living in a residence hall
- Developed and hosted events twice monthly that catered to on-campus residents' interests
- Advertised residence hall and campus events through flyers, group chat posts, and digital display in the front lobby
- Collected and reported dining related feedback and surveys between residents and coworkers and the university dining committee
- Connected residents to on-campus resources, events, and student organizations

Social Work Internships

Family Success Assistant

January 2021- August 2021

Trinity Habitat for Humanity, Fort Worth, Texas

- Researched and designed a potential housing program to prepare clients for home ownership
- Monitored national, state and local housing policies to implement findings in program design
- Examined application denials in Salesforce and created program guidelines that responded to common denial factors
- Created informative material and videos to educate on application and tax protesting process

Pregnancy, Parenting, & Adoption Intern

January 2020- May 2020

Catholic Charities of Dallas, Dallas, Texas

- Shadowed adoptive parent home visits and wrote and organized supervision reports, home studies, and other documentation
- Obtained resources and information to create adoptive parent trainings
- Registered clients for parenting classes and distributed material assistance during classes

University Volunteer Experience

Social Justice Peer Educator, UTA

June 2019 - December 2020

- Facilitated classroom activities, in-person and virtually, that teach awareness on how to respond to social issues such as stereotypes and bias

Leadership Honors Program, UTA

Fall 2018 - Spring 2020

- Multi-year, self-paced leadership development program that emphasized on-campus involvement and personal reflection

Student Government, UTA

April 2019 - November 2019

Social Work Senator

- Conducted research to gather evidence to support the implementation of resolutions
- Advertised posters of events and volunteered at events that raise awareness of student government services

UTA Volunteers, UTA

September 2017- May 2019

Youth and Education Assistant Director

- Volunteered 92 hours total at UTA Volunteer and partner community organizations' events
- Served as Assistant Director for Youth and Education by holding weekly office hours and assisting the director with events and other duties

Salvation Army, UTA

Spring 2018

- Volunteered once a week to lead a women's empowerment class at the Salvation Army
- Worked with other students to create programs and activities for the female residents at the Salvation Army's family homeless shelter

Foreign Study

ASLI Spanish Language Institute

July 2019

Cuernavaca, Mexico

- One month study abroad trip staying with host family
- Took Spanish for the Professions and Latin American Culture and Civilization which included in class instruction in Spanish, projects, and informative trips throughout Mexico

Languages

- Spanish: B2, Proficient
- Korean: A2, Conversational
- French: A1, Basic

Awards

Outstanding Student in Spanish Award

April 2019

UTA Volunteers Presidential Award

April 2018

Given by the president of organization to recognize two outstanding members of the year

Ron Brown Captain

May 2017

Invitation-only professional development program for exceptional African American students, awarded to top 5% of applicants

Scholarships and Fellowships

Lois Palmer Shimpa Memorial Scholarship

August 2024

\$1,000 award for mature students who demonstrated significant community involvement

Letters & Science Community of Graduate Research Scholars Fellowship

August 2024

Full tuition and stipend, up to two years

G. Irene and Fernando G. Torgerson Graduate Studies Advancement Fund

March 2020

\$4,000 per semester, up to four semesters

International Education Fee Scholarship

April 2019

\$1,250 for summer semester abroad in Cuernavaca, Mexico

UTA Presidential Scholarship

August 2017

\$10,000 annually, up to four years

Highest Ranking Graduate

May 2017

The Brian Swiencinski Bright Futures Scholarship

May 2017

\$500 award to the R.E.P.A.Y. student who best exemplifies the qualities of the organization

Licenses

Oklahoma State Board of Licensed Social Workers

Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW): License Number 8179