**Specialty Programs and Interdisciplinary Experiences**

**College of Nursing and Health Professions**

**Committed Connected**

**For Child Welfare Workers, Foster Parents and Community Providers**

- Quarterly special topic educational events for DCFS staff from a nine county area
- Monthly advanced practice education for child welfare workers and foster parents
- Annual area foster parents’ conference
- Participation in the state regional training coalition for DCFS training/education
- University Interdisciplinary Team infusion of child welfare curricula across academic disciplines
- Participation in state wide children and family policy review teams Participation in state wide federal reviews of DCFS services.
- Development of state wide and regional training and educational curricula.

**More Info:**

- [www.astate.edu/a/conhp/socialwork/IV-E](http://www.astate.edu/a/conhp/socialwork/IV-E)
- 870-972-3984

**Title IV E - Child Welfare**

The Academic Partnership for Public Child Welfare is a statewide collaboration of Arkansas universities and the Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to improve recruitment, education, training and retention of the Arkansas Child Welfare Workforce.

**Activities Include:**

- Regional child welfare field training/education for counties in northeast Arkansas
- Stipend program for social work students pursuing child welfare as a profession
- Field instruction for undergraduate and graduate interns placed at DCFS
- Instruction for Child Abuse and Neglect and Child Welfare Courses
- Annual supervisor leadership conference
- Annual ASU interdisciplinary conference

**More Info:**

- Debbie Persell, Coordinator the Regional Center
  - 870-972-3318 or 870-680-8286
  - dpersell@astate.edu
  - [www.astate.edu/a/conhp/regional-center](http://www.astate.edu/a/conhp/regional-center)

**Regional Center for Disaster Preparedness Education**

The Regional Center for Disaster Preparedness Education is the only provider of the Core, Basic and Advanced Disaster Life Support courses in the state of Arkansas. These courses provide education and training in natural disasters as well as biological, chemical, radiological, nuclear and explosive events.

The advanced course includes hands on experiences in which students learn to administer smallpox vaccine, auto-injectors for nerve agents, how to triage a mass casualty field, put on and take off Level C HAZMAT gear and practice treating victims (computerized patient mannequins) for a variety of biological or chemical exposures. The Regional Center is also home to the Disaster Preparedness & Emergency Management program that offers a Multi-disciplinary Minor in Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, an Associate of Applied Science and Master of Science in Disaster Preparedness and a Graduate Certificate in Disaster Health. A Bachelor of Science is pending. The Regional Center is also the authorized Farmedic provider for the state of Arkansas. A cohort of expert faculty in the field teach in all degree programs and have a multi-disciplinary background in disaster preparedness that includes healthcare (hospital, public health, primary care), law enforcement, education, Non-Government Organizations and emergency management.

**More Info:**

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**Speech and Hearing Center**

The Arkansas State University Speech and Hearing Center (ASUSHC), located in the Donald W. Reynolds Center for Health Sciences, provides high quality professional services to individuals of all ages, infants through senior citizens, with needs in communication and hearing improvement. The ASUSHC also serves as a faculty-supervised clinical practicum and research facility for students enrolled in both the bachelor’s and master’s programs in speech-language pathology. The faculty and students working in the ASUSHC provide diagnostic and treatment services for such communication disorders as articulation, fluency, voice, hearing, swallowing, language, and literacy and all services are provided free of charge.

**More Info:**

- [www.astate.edu/a/conhp/communication-disorders/cd-asushc](http://www.astate.edu/a/conhp/communication-disorders/cd-asushc)
- 870-972-3301

**Virtual Hospital**

ASU Memorial Hospital is located in the virtual world of Second Life. The hospital is the setting for inter-professional education and collaborative practice. The virtual simulation provides an alternative supplement to clinical education and facilitates interaction among health professions students. Collaborative communication is the focus of this inter-professional education.

CNHP programs involved in the first phase of development include Nursing, Physical Therapy, Communication Disorders, Clinical Lab Sciences and Medical Imaging and Radiation Sciences. Social work and Nutrition will be included in the second phase.

**More Info:**

- Dr. Sue McLarry, Chair of the School of Nursing
  - (870) 972-3074
  - smclarry@astate.edu

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  - smclarry@astate.edu
Beck PRIDE Center is focused on Personal Rehabilitation, Individual Development and Education. It is located in a university setting to provide a centralized opportunity for veterans to:

- Explore career options through counseling and testing
- Participate in skill or placement testing as necessary
- Secure an academic advisor to develop a degree plan of study
- Utilize the specialized physical and mental rehabilitation services that are available including physical therapy, speech language pathology and mental health counseling
- Utilize our veterans’ educational services officer for benefits advice
- Include family members who desire education or career giving and need counseling
- Identify other services that may be essential to them
- Be referred when necessary

Program services include education assistance, personal rehabilitation services, mental health services, social services, mentoring, and socialization and are designed to supplement (not duplicate) veterans’ government benefits and to fill in service gaps where they exist.

MORE INFO:
Sandra Worlow, Director
ssworlow@astate.edu
www.astate.edu/cpi/beckpride/

**Diabetes Self-Mangement Program**
This free outpatient clinic provides services to ASU faculty, families and students. The program offers education and management for Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes mellitus, gestational diabetes, impaired glucose tolerance (pre-diabetes), and metabolic syndrome. Providers, including registered nurses, physical therapists, registered dietitians, laboratory technicians and social workers, assist patients as they make psychological and social adjustments to living with a chronic disease and help patients and their loved ones sustain the lifestyle changes necessary for diabetes management throughout life. The program is designed to assist patients in managing diabetes through diet, exercise and medication while preventing complications of the disease. The program is based on the belief that individuals with diabetes need to focus their efforts on overall health and not the disease only. For this reason, and for those individuals without diabetes, the program includes education of other issues such as weight management, lipid control, blood pressure management, and other related areas of lifestyle change. The ASU Diabetes Self Management Program is located on the ground floor of the Reynolds building on the Jonesboro campus.
MORE INFO:
870-972-8414

**Healthy Ager Program**
The Healthy Ager program is an interdisciplinary service-learning project for health profession students. The College of Nursing and Health Professions works in conjunction with the Center on Aging-Northeast to facilitate this endeavor. Each Healthy Ager (adults > 65 years) is matched with an interdisciplinary team that includes students in physical therapy, nursing, clinical lab science, social work, communication disorders and nutrition.

The purpose of the project is to:
- Measure student attitudes towards working with the elderly
- Facilitate an interdisciplinary approach for students working with the Healthy Ager in a college setting
- Improve the overall wellness status of the Healthy Ager and student.

MORE INFO:
Dr. Shawn Drake; sdrake@astate.edu

**Hippotherapy**
Hippotherapy is a treatment strategy that utilizes equine movement as part of an integrated intervention program to achieve functional outcomes. Equine movement provides multidimensional movement, which is variable, rhythmic and repetitive. The horse provides a dynamic base of support, making it an excellent tool for increasing trunk strength and control, balance, building overall postural strength and endurance, addressing weight bearing, and motor planning. Equine movement offers well-modulated sensory input to vestibular, proprioceptive, tactile and visual channels. All hippotherapy sessions occur on the campus of Arkansas State University at the Equine Center.
MORE INFO:
www.astate.edu/a/conhp/pt/service-opportunities

**Scoliosis Program**
For Scoliosis, Schroth based physical therapy is an intervention that utilizes a three-dimensional approach to the treatment of scoliosis according to the principles from Katharina Schroth and Christa Lehnrert-Schroth. The therapy treatment involves cognitive, sensory-motor and kinesthetic training to teach the patient to improve his or her scoliosis posture in assumption that scoliosis posture promotes curve progression. The primary indication for Schroth based physical therapy is adolescent idiopathic scoliosis and adult idiopathic scoliosis. In addition, this type of physical therapy works well for juvenile kyphosis which is a deformity in the sagittal plan (two dimensional).

The aims of Schroth based physical therapy include:
- To stop curve progression
- Improve cosmesis
- Improve general health and wellness
- Diminish functional limitations
- To cope with the deformity and with treatment process pain.

The physical therapy sessions are intense lasting approximately 2-4 hours/day for a total of 40 hours. All physical therapy sessions occur on the campus of Arkansas State University at the Reynolds Center. Students who are currently in the Physical Therapy or Physical Therapy Assistant programs have the opportunity to interact and participate with patients currently involved in research endeavors with a trained faculty member.

MORE INFO:
Dr. Shawn Drake; sdrake@astate.edu

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MORE INFO:
870-972-8414

ASU CARE
The ASU Community Action Reinforcing Empowerment (ASU CARE) is located off campus at the corner of 600 Marshall and Belt Streets. The center is a “One Stop Shop” for residents of the community who are needing to be linked to social and economic services including mental health, medical, educational, social welfare, and employment opportunities. ASU CARE holds monthly Community Action Team (CAT) meetings with residents of the community and provides direct services in the form of an after school tutoring program for children in the community. The program hosts a number of other events throughout the year including a Health Fair, a REACH TO READ Literacy Campaign, and occasional “Potluck Dinners” for the residents. The Center Staff maintains ongoing contact with community leaders from both faith communities and the general public to assess the needs of the community and to brainstorm ideas for the development of social capital while building on the strengths of the residents of the North Jonesboro Community.

Faculty and students from the department of social work provide “case management” for individuals who live in the area north of the ASU campus. The goal of the Center is to focus on issues such as substance abuse, crime, employment seeking activities, health disparities, education, social capital, family services, youth development, etc.

MORE INFO:
ASU CARE: 870-392-0080
Department of Social Work: 870-972-3984

Beck PRIDE Center for America’s Wounded Veterans
The mission of the Beck PRIDE Center is to provide combat wounded veterans with first class educational programs and services at Arkansas State University. These include, but are not limited to: resources to access to the higher education experience, resources for counseling, personal rehabilitation, advocacy, and financial assistance; supporting these individuals to achieve their post military service goals.

MORE INFO:
ASU CARE: 870-392-0080
Department of Social Work: 870-972-3984

**MORE INFO:**
www.astate.edu/cpi/beckpride/

**MORE INFO:**
www.astate.edu/a/conhp/pt/service-opportunities

**MORE INFO:**
Dr. Shawn Drake; sdrake@astate.edu