




Current DSW Students

Name & Email	Bio	Picture	Added to Website
<p>Keena Friday-Gilbert kdglbert@memphis.edu</p>	<p>Keena Friday-Gilbert, MBA, MSW, IECMH-E® serves as Director of Belonging for the Association of Infant Mental Health in Tennessee (AIMHiTN). She has nearly 20 years of experience in working with children, families, and their communities through program development and non-profit management and seeks to help cultivate systems of inclusion and equity for families in Tennessee. She obtained her BSW from Oral Roberts University, her MBA from the University of Phoenix, and her MSW in Organizational Leadership from the University of Tennessee. She is also currently a DSW candidate at the University of Memphis. Keena desires to focus her research on inequities in early care, health, and education for children of color. It is my desire for all children to experience a sense of belonging.</p>		

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<p>Saja Mboge smboge@memphis.edu</p>	<p>Saja B. Mboge is a Licensed Master Social Worker, a licensed School social worker, and a Certified Youth Mental Health First Aid Instructor. He is a second-year doctoral student in the School of Social work DSW program. He completed his undergraduate degree in social work at Rust College Holly Springs, MS, and his Master of Social work from Barry University Ellen Whiteside McDonnell School of Social Work. As a GA, he taught and worked with a faculty member on research projects. Currently, he works as a licensed school social worker for Memphis Shelby County Schools and a graduate assistant for the School of Social work at The University of Memphis. He has taught introduction to social work online and in person since the Fall of 2021. Before working with MSCS as a school social worker, he worked as a Child and Adolescent Therapist with Compass Intervention Center from 2011-2018, a PRN Crisis Specialist with Alliance Healthcare Services from 2015, and a PRN therapist with Vertava Health from July 2020 to August 2021. Mr. Mboge has fifteen years of social work experience in various settings such as residential, hospice, PHP, IOP, crisis, acute psychiatric hospitals, Schools, and addiction and recovery. Mr. Mboge has years of experience with TF-CBT, CBT, and Seven challenges. He has experience working with individuals, groups, and families.</p> <p>Mr. Mboge has worked with children and adolescents with a history of emotional dysregulation coupled with psychosocial stressors, anger, conduct issues, truancy, trauma, grief, academic problems, and poor impulse control. He has provided therapeutic interventions, such as</p>		

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	<p>social skills training, behavior management counseling, and coping skills to students to help them overcome psychosocial stressors and underlying mental health challenges. He has provided consultations about classroom management and co-teaches youth mental health first aid course to MSCS staff and other mental health professionals in Memphis to help them recognize signs of mental health challenges/distress among students and the public. He has also co-presented suicide prevention to High schoolers within Memphis Shelby County Schools (MSCS).</p> <p>Mr. Mboge has worked with young adults and adults with a history of trauma, grief, co-occurring disorders, substance use disorder, and behavioral health challenges. Mr. Mboge has been an active member of the National Association of Social workers Association (NASW) since 2007.</p> <p>Research Interest</p> <p>His research interests include how unresolved trauma manifests in other behavioral issues for clients and the normalization of generational trauma. Other research interests include the impact of Covid 19 on educational attainment among African American K-12 students in Memphis, TN, barriers and access to Mental Health Care among Veterans, and correlations between trauma and substance use and the use of technology in social work practice.</p> <p>Teaching Philosophy</p> <p>My teaching is focused on interacting with students to reflect the core values of social work education. The foundation of my teaching philosophy originates from fostering an environment where learning becomes the center</p>		

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	through interaction and creativity. In my classroom, the focus is on collective learning and constantly striving to meet the desired goals.		
Kelli Garrett kbgrrett@memphis.edu	<p>Kelli Garrett is a DSW student in the College of Social Work, based in Nashville, TN. She earned her MSW from the University of Tennessee and BSW from Lipscomb University. She currently serves as the Director of Assessment and Engagement for Lipscomb University's Online program. In that role, she oversees Lipscomb Online's CORE Assessment Center, which provides student professionals the opportunity to demonstrate their leadership competencies, identify their strengths, and earn significant credit toward graduation. Kelli also teaches/develops leadership courses and supports online faculty.</p> <p>Kelli is highly involved with Lipscomb University's LIFE program, which provides college degrees for incarcerated individuals in two state prisons. Kelli conducts leadership assessments, teaches leadership courses and workshops, and advises students interested in social work/counseling. Kelli is pursuing a DSW and a Higher Education Learning certificate with the hopes of leading Higher Education in Prison (HEP) programs full-time. Her research/dissertation will be related to issues surrounding HEP.</p> <p>Kelli is an experienced social services program developer and manager, having led at organizations such as Second Harvest Food Bank and St. Luke's Community House in Nashville, TN. Kelli has served as an adjunct instructor for</p>		

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	<p>Lipscomb University BSW Adult Degree Program at and has supervised undergraduate and graduate social work students from multiple Nashville universities.</p> <p>Kelli enjoys the great outdoors (hiking, swimming, yard work, etc.), comedy, her two cats, and spending time with her young niece and nephew.</p>		