

Erin T. Warfel, DSW, LCSW

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Social Work

2019-2022

Specialization: Teaching

University of Saint Thomas, St. Paul, MN

Dissertation: "The Role of Social Work Faculty in Responding to Students' Mental Health Needs"

Master of Social Service

1999-2001

Concentration: Program Planning and Development

Master of Law and Social Policy

1999-2001

Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA

Bachelor of Arts -Social Work

1995-1999

Women's Studies Minor

Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, PA

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

LifeSkills Center for Child Welfare Education and Research

August 2024-Present *Faculty Fellow for Scholarship*

- Coordinate, manage, and promote the Center's research-related activities

Western Kentucky University, Department of Social Work

January 2023- Present

Assistant Professor

July 1, 2023- Present

MSW Program Director

August 2022- June 2023

Interim MSW Program Director

December 2021-May 2022

Interim BSW and MSW Field Director

2021-2023

MSW Online Program Coordinator

2018-2023

Full-Time Instructor

2016-2018

Part-Time Adjunct Instructor

Courses Taught

- SWRK 378- Social Work Practice II- Groups
- SWRK 501- Cultural Competency in Social Work Practice
- SWRK 520- Generalist Social Work Practice
- SWRK 522- Group Dynamics in Social Work

- SWRK 610- Social Work Administration and Supervision
 - SWRK 612- Social Work in Diverse Rural Communities
 - SWRK 622- Integrated Social Work with Families
 - SWRK 623- Social Work Clinical Assessment and Intervention
 - SWRK 630- Rural Social Welfare Policy
 - SWRK 560; 561- Generalist Field Practicum I & II
 - SWRK 660; 661- Advanced Field Practicum I & II
 - SWRK 673- Grief and Loss Issues & Interventions
 - SWRK 685- Human Trafficking: Theories, Policies, & Intervention
 - Faculty Field Liaison
 - Faculty External Field Instructor
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PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Harper, W., **Warfel, E.T.**, Bryce, C., Murphy, A. L., Jones, O. (2025). Will and Capacity: Are Faculty Prepared to Face the Mental Health Challenges of Students in Higher Education? *Journal of Faculty Development* 40(1). Accepted in March 2025, to be published in the January 2026 edition.

Murphy, A. L., Boamah, D. A., **Warfel, E. T.**, Griffiths, A., & Roehm, D. (2023). Ending racial disproportionality in child welfare: A systematic review of evidence-based interventions. *Children & Society*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/chso.12721>

Griffiths, A., Holderfield-Gaither, E., Funge, S.P., & **Warfel, E. T.** (2021). Satisfaction, willingness, and well-being: Examining the perceptions of a statewide sample of public and private foster parents. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 121, 1-10. <https://doiorg.libsrv.wku.edu/10.1016/j.childyouth.2020.105886>

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS UNDER REVIEW

Warfel, E.T. Harper, W., Murphy Morgan, A., Starks, S., & Asabere, G. (2025) Examining disparity in social work licensure exam pass rates: Opportunity for a stronger profession. *Journal of Social Work Education*.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

*Harper, W., **Warfel, E.T.**, Murphy Morgan, A. Starks, S., Asabere, G. Qualitative manuscript related to disparity in licensure pass rates*

Harper, W., **Warfel, E.T.**, Murphy Morgan, A. *Student mental health manuscript*

Warfel, E.T. Formulating a social work faculty response to students' mental health needs.

Warfel, E.T. Social work faculty responses to students' mental health needs

PEER-REVIEWED PRESENTATIONS-NATIONAL

- (Submitted and Awaiting Acceptance)** Cassity Caywood, W., Sales, S., Anderson, K., **Warfel, E.T.** (2025). *Developing student professionalism in the modern era: Strategies for success*. Baccalaureate Program Directors conference, New Orleans, LA. March 2026.
- (Accepted)** Harper, W., **Warfel, E.T.**, Murphy Morgan, A. & Starks, S. (2025). *Examining disparity in social work licensure pass rates*. National Council on Family Relations, Baltimore, MD. November 2025.
- (Accepted)** **Warfel, E.T.**, Harper, W., Murphy Morgan, A., & Starks, S. (2025). *Examining disparity in social work licensure pass rates: Research outcomes*. Council on Social Work Education, Annual Program Meeting, Denver, CO. October 2025.
- (Accepted)** Moore, C., **Warfel, E.T.**, Cassity-Caywood, W. (2025). "Cultures of child protection: Exploring state-specific and nationwide child welfare systems. Virginia Social Science Association Conference, Colonial Heights, VA. April 2025.
- (Accepted)** **Warfel, E.T.**, Harper, W., Murphy A. & Starks, S. (2024). *Examining disparity in social work licensure pass rates: Preliminary results*. Council on Social Work Education, Annual Program Meeting, Kansas City, MO. October 24-27, 2024.
- (Accepted)** **Warfel, E.T.**, Harper, W., Murphy, A. & Bryce, C. (2024). *Supporting student success: Student's mental health challenges and perspectives on faculty response*. Council on Social Work Education, Annual Program Meeting, Kansas City, MO. October 24-27, 2024.
- (Accepted)** **Warfel, E.T.**, Harper, W., Murphy, A., Starks, S. (2024). *Examining disparity in social work licensure pass rates: Preliminary results*. Baccalaureate Program Directors Conference, Las Vegas, NV. March 12-16, 2025).
- Warfel, E.T.**, Harper, W., Murphy, A. & Bryce, C. (2023). *Supporting Student Success: Inclusivity in Supporting Student Mental Health*. Council on Social Work Education, Annual Program Meeting, Atlanta, GA. October 26-29.
- Boamah, D.A., **Warfel, E.T.**, Murphy, A.L., & Jones, O. (2022). *Human rights content in social work education: Where are we and where can we go?* Council on Social Work Education, Annual Program Meeting, Anaheim, CA. November 10-13.
- Funge, S.P. & **Warfel, E.T.** (2022). *Examining the perceptions of foster parents: Implications for child welfare training and education*. National Title IV-E Roundtable, Bowling Green, KY, May 17-19.
- Murphy, A.L., Boamah, D.A., **Warfel, E.T.**, Green, K., & Griffiths, A. (2022). *Racial*

disproportionality in child welfare: Moving beyond lip service. National Title IV-E Conference. Bowling Green, KY. May 17-19.

Warfel, E. T., (2021). *Factors impacting social work faculty response to students' mental health needs.* Council on Social Work Education, Annual Program Meeting, Orlando, FL. November 4-7.

EXTERNAL GRANTS

2025: Council on Post Secondary Education Healthcare Workforce Investment Fund (PI: Warfel) (Funded- \$598,196.00)

(Submitted: Not Awarded) 2024: US Department of Education: Mental Health Service Professional (MHSP) Demonstration Grant Program. School Psychologists as Mental Health Service Providers. (Co-PI: Warfel) (Requested- \$2,817,029.00).

2023: Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Regulatory Research Initiative To Advance Equity. *Identifying Opportunities to Enhance Equitable Paths to Social Work Licensure.* (PI: Warfel) (Funded- \$160,026.00).

INTERNAL GRANTS

2025: Western Kentucky University College of Health and Human Services (CHHS) Quick Turn Around Grant (QTAG). *Examining disparity in social work licensure pass rates: Research outcomes.* (Warfel, PI). (Requested- \$3000.00)

2023: Western Kentucky University College of Health and Human Services (CHHS) Quick Turn Around Grant (QTAG). *Identifying Opportunities to Enhance Equitable Paths to Social Work Licensure.* (Warfel Co-PI). (Funded - \$2997.00).

OTHER RESEARCH ACTIVITY

Co-Investigator. *Cultures of Child Protection: Exploring State-Specific and Nationwide Child Welfare Systems.* Principal Investigator, Dr. Christa Moore, University of Virginia's College at Wise and Research Affiliate with the LifeSkills Center for Child Welfare Education and Research. Data collection is ongoing. Spring 2025-present.

Research Partner. *Shaping Future Leaders in Autism Care.* Principal Investigator, Dr. Kim Link,

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

- WKU Research and Sponsored Activities First Time Lead Award 2025
 - Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning (CITL) teaching nominations, fall 2020, spring 2021, fall 2021, spring 2022, fall 2023, spring 2024
 - WKU CHHS Faculty Award (Teaching) nominee, fall 2021 and fall 2024
 - WKU CHHS Faculty Award (Advising) nominee, fall 2023
 - WKU CHHS Faculty Award (Service) nominee, fall 2023, fall 2024
 - Part-time Faculty of the Year Award recipient 2017
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PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS/CERTIFICATIONS

- CSWE Program Director Academy Summer 2023-Fall 2024
 - WKU Inclusive Teaching Academy (ITA) Certificate- Summer 2024
 - Licensed Clinical Social Worker KY #4022
 - Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)
 - National Association of Social Workers (NASW)
 - Kentucky Association of Social Work Educators (KASWE)
 - Kentucky Association of Social Work Educators Program Directors
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PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2024	Kentucky Board of Social Work- Student Intern Workgroup
2023-Present	Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of South Central KY Board of Directors
2019-Present	National Association of Social Workers (NASW) KY Chapter CEU committee
2018-2024	Social Work Lobby Day Committee- NASW-KY
2011- 2022	Branch chair; Executive Board Secretary- NASW - Kentucky Chapter
2018-2021	NASW-KY Political Action for Candidate Election (PACE) committee
2019-2022	National Title IV-E Conference Committee

UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE, AND DEPARTMENT SERVICE

2024-Present	WKU Graduate Council
2024-Present; Chair, 2025-Present	WKU Graduate Council Curriculum Committee
2023-Present	MSW Graduate Research Assistant Mentor

2023- Present College of Health and Human Services Community Engagement Committee
 2022-Present College of Health and Human Services Graduate Curriculum Committee
 2023-Present MSW Program Self-Study for Department of Social Work Reaffirmation with CSWE.
 2023-Present WKU Department of Social Work Anti-racism, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ADEI) Committee
 2016-Present WKU Social Work Department Advisory Committee
 2018-Present MSW Admissions Committee
 2018-Present MSW Practice Readiness Exam Committee
 2018-2024 MSW Diversity Curriculum Committee Chair
 2018-Present; Chair 2021- 2024 MSW Practice Curriculum Committee
 2018-Present Department Part-time Faculty Training Committee
 2018-Present Department Social Work Month Planning Committee
 2021- Present Social Work Department CEU committee
 2021, 2022, 2024 University of KY and WKU iCATS (Interprofessional Collaboration and Team Building Skills) Facilitator
 2023- Present WKU Raising Hope- collaboration with South Central KY AHEC and School of Nursing and Allied Health
 2023-2024 WKU Review Committee for the Master of Health Administration Academic Program Review
 2021- 2022 College of Health and Human Services (CHHS) Trauma-informed return to campus workgroup
 2018-2022 Assist WKU Field Director with a variety of tasks
 2018-2022 Developed and presented WKU Department of Social Work Field Instructor Trainings
 2019-2022 Advisor to 20 WKU MSW students each semester
 2018-2022 MSW Advisor- Graduate Student Social Work Association (GSSW)
 2018-2021 WKU Homecoming Committee

Curriculum Development

2025 Collaboration with College of Education and Behavioral Sciences to develop intake process with the Department of Education for School Social Workers
 2023 Development of Trauma-Informed School Social Work elective course
 2023 Development of School Social Work Certificate
 2020-2021 Social work field simulation activities

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

ResCare, Inc. - Kentucky SAFE (Specialized Alternative Family Environments) Therapeutic Foster Care and Community Youth Services- Statewide

2017-2018 *Executive Director*
 2008-2018 *Treatment Director*
 2008-2017 *Psychotherapist*

In this role, I managed 55 staff, the day-to-day operations, and the financial

oversight of the statewide therapeutic foster care program and community-based residential program for Kentucky youth in the custody of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Department of Community Based Services. I collaborated with psychiatrists and interdisciplinary professionals to provide clinical assessment, intervention, and evaluation of therapeutic services to youth and families.

2015-2017 *Program Director*

In this role, I managed a pilot project with the Jefferson County Department for Community-Based Services and Passport Health Plan, managed care organization, which provided intensive wraparound services to children and families.

Western Kentucky University/Bowling Green Housing Authority- Project Empower Bowling Green, KY

2011-2014 *Behavioral Health Specialist*

In this role, I provided clinical interventions to individuals, couples, and families, while collaborating with a larger treatment team.

The Coad Group- Exton, PA
(Chester County Council on Addictive Diseases)

2004-2007 *Director of Student Assistance Program (SAP) Services*

In this role, I managed contracts and staff that provided mental health and substance use/abuse assessment and referral services for students and their families in middle and high schools throughout the county. I facilitated psycho-educational groups and individual sessions in the school setting, coordinated, and facilitated countywide meetings of student assistance professionals.

Chester County Juvenile Probation Department- West Chester, PA

2001-2004 *Community Service Case Manager*

2000-2001 *Social Work Graduate Intern*

In this role, I managed a caseload of juveniles assigned community service through the court system due to criminal activity. I worked with community partners to develop meaningful activities for juveniles to restore the harm done to the community and then presented to the courts on their progress. I started a "Young Offenders" program that matched juveniles under 12 with an adult mentor to understand the impact of their actions on others.

Chester County Intermediate Unit -Downingtown, PA
Chester County Regional Education Services

2000-2004 *Therapeutic Staff Support*

In this role, I provided one-on-one therapeutic services and support to a young boy diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder and his family in both their home and the community. I worked with the Behavior Specialist and treatment team to develop effective and appropriate treatment plans.