

Grants & Awards September 2021



Dr. Beth Gillespie

Dr. Beth Gillespie, assistant professor, **Public and Nonprofit Administration**, received an award from the Assisi Foundation of Memphis to implement a continuing education course for nonprofit chief executive officers. Through the hands-on training, participants learned how to create a successful fundraising campaign. Dr. Gillespie worked with Rachel Ramjattan of Nonprofit Plus, LLC to implement the project.

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Dr. Paige Pirkey

Dr. Paige Pirkey, post-doctoral fellow, **School of Social Work**, received an award from Compass Community Schools (with funding from the Urban Child Institute) at the end of the spring 2021 semester. Dr. Pirkey piloted and evaluated a trauma-informed yoga and mindfulness program with kindergarten, first and second graders at two of Compass' charter schools. Dr. Pirkey designed the program to be developmentally appropriate and to improve students' self-regulation skills.

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Dr. Susan Neely-Barnes



Dr. Laura Taylor



Dr. Paige Pirkey

Dr. Susan Neely-Barnes, professor, director and chair, School of Social Work, will lead an interdisciplinary team as the principal investigator of the **INTEGRATE** program—**Interprofessional Teams Grounded in Apprenticeship, Telehealth, and Evidence**. INTEGRATE is being funded under a four-year award from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and will provide funded practicums or internships for graduate students in the following programs: Social Work, Counseling, Counseling Psychology, and Clinical Psychology. Dr. Laura Taylor, assistant professor, and Dr. Paige Pirkey, post-doctoral fellow, **School of Social Work**, are collaborating, along with faculty from the Department of Counseling, Educational Psychology and Research (CEPR) and the Department of Psychology.

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Dr. Melissa Hirschi



Dr. Susan Elswick

Dr. Melissa Hirschi, assistant professor, **School of Social Work**, has received funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to fund the **Peers Engaging and Empowering Recovery (PEER)** program. Dr. Susan Elswick, associate professor, **School of Social Work**, is co-PI on the project. The award will allow UofM to partner with the Tennessee Association of Alcohol, Drug and Other Addiction Services and the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services to recruit and train 120 people as Certified Peer Recovery Specialists (CPRS) over the four years of the project. CPRSs provide peer recovery services for mental health and/or substance use disorders. Peer support services are an essential part of the behavioral health treatment plan and can lead to improved health outcomes for individuals.