FSWI TO LAUNCH ITS OWN FINANCIAL SOCIAL WORK (FSW) CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IN MARCH 2018!

UMSSW’s Financial Social Work Initiative (FSWI) is launching its very own Financial Social Work (FSW) Certificate Program through UMSSW’s Continuing Professional Education (CPE) Office in March 2018! It will meet an identified need for greater financial capability and empowerment knowledge on the part of social workers who practice in non-profit and other social service agencies, as well as in schools, medical settings, and justice and court settings, and beyond.

In FSWI’s work and research over the past 10 years, social workers and human service organizations have expressed a significant, ongoing need for financial social work (FSW) training and skill-building strategies to enable them to intervene appropriately and effectively with financially distressed individuals, families, and communities. Beyond providing resources, however, social workers must have sophisticated knowledge about issues in typical daily financial life, such as credit, debt, budgeting, and working towards identified financial goals. Social workers who work with clients on their complex financial struggles and how these intersect with other psychosocial stressors must be knowledgeable about and familiar with financial issues and behaviors, and feel comfortable in addressing these directly and effectively. From a macro, policy perspective as well, social workers who work within FSW must also be well versed in historical and current policy issues that influence and affect people’s paths towards greater financial stability; conversely, those policies that hinder financial stability and/or that perpetuate economic injustice must also be understood.

The FSW Certificate Program will run over seven sessions from March 2018 to November 2018. Each session will be on a Friday and will take place from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Baltimore campus at 525 West Redwood Street, Baltimore, MD 21201. The dates are:

- Friday, March 2, 2018
- Friday, April 6, 2018
- Friday, May 4, 2018
- Friday, June 1, 2018
SUMMER HIATUS (BUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR ONLINE DIALOGUE AND PRACTICE APPLICATION)

- Friday, September 7, 2018
- Friday, October 5, 2018
- Friday, November 2, 2018

The in-person classroom style of the FSW Certificate Program will enable rich class discussion and learning through interaction among the macro and clinical practitioners. Besides key educators, the program will feature guest speakers from this important, emerging area. In addition, 3 hours of ethics content will be included and will go towards satisfying requirements for ethics CEUs.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

1) To increase social workers’ knowledge of and skills with financial social work concepts and practice, and to integrate this content into how complex financial activities are navigated on a daily basis;

2) To increase the capacity for the social work profession to engage clients in financial empowerment and strategies for working on self-identified financial goals and paths toward greater stability and well-being;

3) To train social workers in skill building in making their financial social work practice responsive and effective to individuals, families, and communities struggling with financial and other types of stressors;

4) To train social workers to be powerful change agents and advocates within their communities of practice.

Thanks to the support from generous funders and the UMSSW, the registration cost is at a significantly discounted rate: **Cost: $1200 $775! Total number of CEUs for the FSW Certificate Program: 42.**

Visit [www.ssw.umd.edu/fsw](http://www.ssw.umd.edu/fsw) and [www.ssw.umd.edu/cpe](http://www.ssw.umd.edu/cpe) for the application and more information.

Deadline to apply is January 31, 2018.

Mail applications to:
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Contact Dr. Callahan at ccallahan@ssw.umd.edu or 410-706-7051 for questions.