

# 2020 - 2021 SSW Anti-Racism Fund

## DEInnovation Grants

May 2021



# Anti-Racism Fund Goals

The student-led Anti-Racism Fund group at the School of Social Work invited MSW and PhD students to submit individual and student group grant proposals for anti-racism projects with the goal of confronting and combatting:

- Anti-blackness
- Racism against Indigenous peoples and
- White supremacy

# Anti-Racism Fund Guidelines

All proposals by SSW students were to:

- Include an itemized budget of up to \$1,000 for individual projects and \$2,000 for group projects
- Be educational in nature
- Detail how it connects directly to the [SSW mission](#) of developing equitable, caring and socially just societies and the [SSW strategic plan](#) of developing education that is original, creative and fosters leadership while promoting genuinely respectful collaborations.

# 2020-2021 Student Funded Projects

## Individual Project:

- **Accessibility Checklist** - Flavio Di Stefano

## Student Group Projects:

- **Guest Speaker Presentation with Barakah Sanders and Yusef Shakur** - Student Social Workers in Higher Education
- **Anti-Racism Workshop** - School of Social Work Student Union
- **Latinx Student Enrollment Diversity Initiative** - Latinx Social Work Coalition
- **Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month Teach-ins and Storytelling Project** - SSW Asian Pacific Islander Coalition

# **Project Title:** Accessibility Checklist

## **Student:** Flavio Di Stefano

### **Description and Goals**

A checklist for use by educators, public event planners, employers, social groups and other organizations

- To identify **in**access and help expand access for underrepresented groups
- To open doors to intersectionality and inclusivity
- To advance BIPOC conditions by eliminating barriers to advantageous groups and spaces; eliminating indirect barriers such as codes and judgemental standards and direct barriers such as organizational bias and personal actions/language

### **Method**

Interviews with small business owners, non-profits, academic representatives and other stakeholders about DEI involvement

### **Deliverables**

A website to host the free Accessibility Checklist as well as other diversity resources

# **Project Title:** Presentation with Barakah Sanders and Yusef Shakur **Student Group:** Student Social Workers in Higher Education

## **Description and Goals**

Subject experts Barakah Sanders & Yusef Shakur were invited to speak to the social work community

- To expose structures that support racial disparities in the criminal justice system
- To provide resources for the abolition of White supremacy and systemic injustice in that system
- Discuss the idea of the New Jim Crow

## **Deliverables**

The grant aided in the production of a speaking engagement in April 2021 which reached an estimated 50+ members of the SSW community. The event was recorded for playback

# **Project Title:** Anti-Racism Workshop

## **Student Group:** School of Social Work Student Union

### **Description and Goals**

The group will offer presentations and educational sessions that will integrate anti-racist ideas with the practical application of skills

- To amplify BIPOC voices and magnify their work
- Cultivate a space to have conversations about anti-racism, White privilege and allyship
- Help to create movement and foster active participation in anti-racist pedagogy
- Equip participants with proper tools to combat racism

### **Methods**

Utilizing the [P.O.D.S.](#) (privilege, oppression, diversity and social justice) framework to aid discussion

Pre and post surveys to track project curriculum effectiveness

### **Deliverables**

Sharing results and providing a record of qualitative feedback

# **Project Title:** Latinx Student Enrollment Diversity Initiative

## **Student Group:** Latinx Social Work Coalition

### **Description and Goals**

The group aims to expand Latinx Student admission to the U-M SSW program by

- Examining practices by predominantly white schools that promote White supremacy
- Developing equity and empowerment of Latinx students of social work
- Acknowledging intersectionality and diversifying student and ally voices

### **Methods**

Gathering information on experiences from the student point of view

Accessing information about U-M's admission and recruitment efforts at the graduate level

Facilitated focus groups with prospective, current and graduated Latinx U-M SSW students

### **Deliverables**

Suggested changes to recruiting and admissions policies and program improvements

Best practices document for Latinx-serving institutions including, but not limited to U-M



# **Project Title:** Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month Teach-ins & Storytelling Project

**Student Group:** SSW Asian Pacific Islander Coalition

## **Description and Goals**

The group aims to:

- Encourage dialogue, celebrate community and teach about the history of anti-API racism
- Foster collaboration amongst API members and BIPOC activists for “collective liberation”
- Provide a platform to shed light on uniquely Asian experiences
- Address mental health in the community

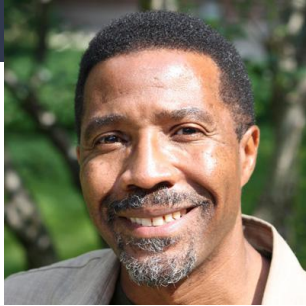
## **Methods**

Organize and facilitate teach-ins and storytelling events May-June for the public at large  
Utilize targeted communication for greater elderly access (via youth advocates)

## **Deliverables**

Attendees will gain cultural competency and awareness and the group will produce an action items document and put event recording on their website

# Anti-Racism Budget Advisory Group Members



**Dr. Larry Gant**  
Faculty Co-Chair



**Dr. Luke Shaefer**  
Faculty Co-Chair



**David Bullock**  
MSW Student



**Lovella Calica**  
MSW Student



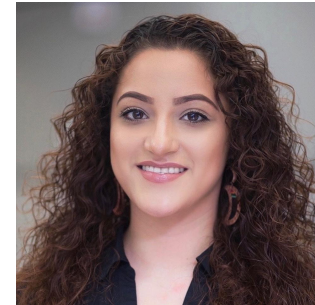
**Dominique Crump**  
Staff



**Joyce Lee**  
PhD Student



**Justin Woods**  
MSW/MBA Student



**Cinthia Zapien**  
MSW Student

# Interested in Applying?

School of Social Work students who would like to brainstorm potential project ideas are invited to contact Professor Luke Shaefer ([lshaefer@umich.edu](mailto:lshaefer@umich.edu)) and Professor Larry Gant ([imgant@umich.edu](mailto:imgant@umich.edu)).

## **Anti-Racism Fund Applications**

- [Student Organization Grant Application](#)
- [Individual Student Project Grant Application](#)