

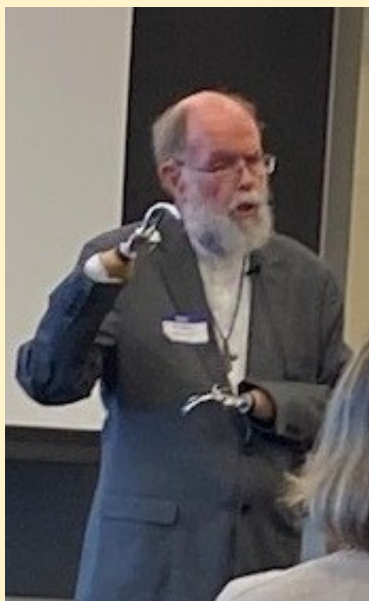
# FAMILY SCIENCE & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

## Department Newsletter

JUNE 2024

### A Journey Toward Healing from Trauma

More than 75 attendees participated in a Peace-Building and Restorative Justice program hosted by the Family Science and Human Development Department on May 6. This unique, visionary event was presented by Father Michael Lapsley, an anti-apartheid activist who



**Father Lapsley describes his journey toward healing after being bombed by the South African government for his anti-apartheid stance.**

staunchly fought oppression in South Africa in the 1970s, specifically the injustices targeted at black children. He was exiled by the South African government and subsequently targeted with a letter bomb disguised as a religious pamphlet, causing him to lose both hands and his right eye.

The attack strengthened his resilience and refocused his personal vocation. As a beacon of hope and strength of the human spirit, he paved a path toward healing and forgiveness by founding [The Institute for Healing of Memories](#). His mission is to break the cycle of dehumanization and victimization, and help those who have experienced personal trauma to begin to heal, feel empowered and restore their dignity.

Lapsley delivered an impassioned presentation about his journey from the priesthood to social activism to healing and forgiveness. He explained how the scars of his past continue to shape his life today. He then answered questions through a conversational interview with FSHD senior Devin Sanderson-Raphael. The most in-depth portion of the program —

an intimate, small group workshop — created a safe space for people to tell their stories, touch their own wounds and be heard without judgment, all while taking the first steps toward healing.

Multiple units within the university helped make this program a reality: College for Community Health; Anthropology; Classics and General Humanities; Counseling; Center for Autism and Early Childhood Mental Health; History; The Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights Education Project; Justice Studies; Office of Social Justice and Diversity; Political Science and Law; Public Health; Religion; Social Work and Child Advocacy; and Sociology. ■



**Father Michael Lapsley is welcomed to Montclair by Dr. Amy Aiello (left), Interim Dean of the College for Community Health, and Dr. Lyndal Khaw, Chairperson of the Family Science and Human Development Department.**



**A small group workshop led by Father Lapsley enables participants to share their stories of trauma and set out on a path toward healing.**

## Rest Stop Teaches Students about Resources on Campus

Students in Dr. Soyoung Lee's *Working with Diverse Families and Children* class (FSHD 418) sponsored a "Red Hawk Resource Rest Stop" in the Student Center lobby to share information about resources available on campus that address the needs of Montclair's student population. The students quizzed fellow Red Hawks on their knowledge of services such as the Drop-In Center, study abroad opportunities, the Red Hawk Pantry and many other resources, and handed out FSHD Department swag as prizes and gifts.

Congratulations to Amanda, Cecelia, Jailyn, Kaitlyn, Luke, Neena, Nicole, Sofia, and Stephanie for hosting an informative and successful event for the benefit of Montclair students!



## Pride Month: A Time to Highlight LGBTQ Services at Montclair

Since 1970, June has been designated as LGBTQ Pride Month to celebrate what it means to be lesbian, gay, bisexual, and/or transgender. Pride Month is the perfect time to acknowledge the array of programs and services offered by Montclair State University and its [LGBTQ Center](#) to create a campus environment that is inclusive and supportive of sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression.

### Classroom Guidelines

Course instructors are expected to set a tone of respect and critical inquiry, and establish guidelines to create a class environment where everyone can participate comfortably. Faculty are legally required to refer to students by their chosen name and pronouns.

### Discussion Groups

The LGBTQ Center creates space for students who share similar identities to come together in a welcoming environment to build community, share experiences, and support one another. Groups are facilitated by trained Peer Educators and discussions are based on different topics each week.

### LGBTQ Minor

The Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies department, offers a [minor in LGBTQ Studies](#) where students critically examine and creatively explore the construction and maintenance of gendered identities, sexualities, and related discourses and practices, in a variety of contexts.

### Counseling Referrals

While it is not necessary for trans people to have a counselor who is also a gender identity specialist, someone specializing in gender may be more trans-inclusive, friendly and knowledgeable about trans-related issues and concerns. For general counselor referrals, students may go to [Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#) in Russ Hall.

### Bathrooms

Everyone on the Montclair campus has the right to use restrooms that correspond to their gender identity, regardless of their sex assigned at birth. Individuals seeking increased privacy are encouraged, but never required, to use the single-stall [all-gender restrooms](#) on campus.

### Preferred Name

Recognizing that some individuals have a strong preference to be known by a name other than their legal name, it is the university's policy to permit students and employees to designate, use, and be known within the university community by a preferred name. Read the policy [here](#).

### Athletics

Montclair State University follows the NCAA policy for transgender student-athletes:

- A trans male (female to male) student-athlete who has received a medical exception for treatment with testosterone for gender transition may compete on a men's team but is no longer eligible to compete on a women's team without changing the team status to a mixed team. A mixed team is eligible only for men's championships.
- A trans female (male to female) student-athlete being treated with testosterone suppression medication for gender transition may continue to compete on a men's team



but may not compete on a women's team without changing it to a mixed team status until completing one calendar year of documented testosterone-suppression treatment.

### Club Sports

Intramural Sports offer participation in a wide variety of sports and activities without the time commitments or skill level of a varsity player. All sports are broken down into four leagues: Men's, Women's, Open and Greek. Determination for Men's and Women's Leagues are based on an individual's gender identity, and Open Leagues are open to all. Each player can only join one team per league (i.e. one open league and one Women's/Men's league).

### Housing Options

Stonewall Suites is the university's LGBTQ living community in Dinallo Heights. It provides a comfortable living and learning experience, where residents are placed without consideration of gender identity, gender expression or sexual orientation.

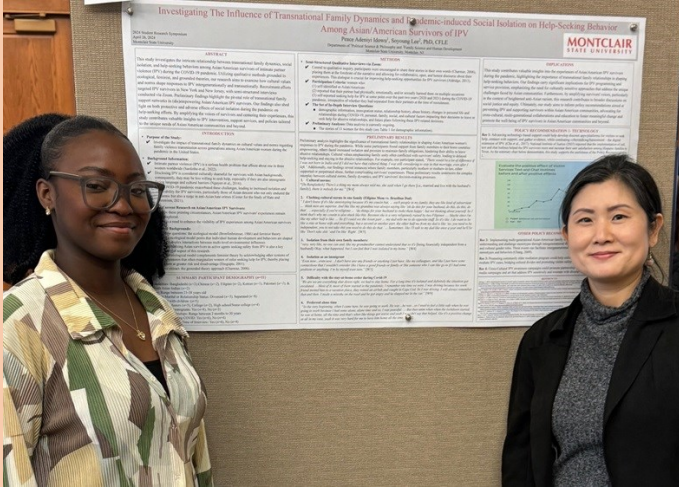
### Medical Coverage

Hormone therapy prescriptions and gender confirming surgeries are covered in the University [Student Health Insurance Plan](#) (SHIP) which is available to all students. For more information regarding the SHIP, call (833) 251-1705 or email [info@univhealthplans.com](mailto:info@univhealthplans.com).

For more information about programs and services on campus, visit the LGBTQ Center's [website](#) or stop by Student Center Room 133B. ■

## Spotlight on Student Research

The Student Research Symposium showcases outstanding research by Montclair students, and provides a venue for sharing research with colleagues, peers and the greater community. The symposium also promotes interdisciplinary research and collaboration in the hope of instilling in our students the importance of exploring issues from multiple perspectives.



The FSHD Department was represented by Peace Adeniyi-Iidowu (left), a student enrolled in an Independent Study to assist FSHD Professor Dr. Soyoung Lee with research. Peace displayed her poster about how family dynamics and the pandemic impacted Asian-American survivors of intimate partner violence. ■

## National Caribbean-American Heritage Month

During Caribbean-American Heritage Month in June, we celebrate the achievements and dreams of the millions of people of Caribbean origin now living in the United States, while honoring the shared history of joy and perseverance that has united and enriched our lives for centuries.

The mix of Caribbean cultures, languages, and religions across the U.S. and the islands reflects the diversity of spirit that defines the American story. Caribbean countries are bound by common values and a shared history — overcoming the yoke of colonialism, confronting the original sin of slavery, and charting new opportunities across borders and generations.

The earliest wave of Caribbean settlers in the U.S. occurred in the 19th century when many people emigrated to find work or to flee political instability. Some came voluntarily while others were brought as part of forced enslavement.



The largest numbers of Caribbean-Americans currently living in the U.S. are from Cuba, Jamaica, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and Trinidad and Tobago, Puerto Rico, St. Thomas, and St. Croix.

Renowned Caribbean-Americans include:

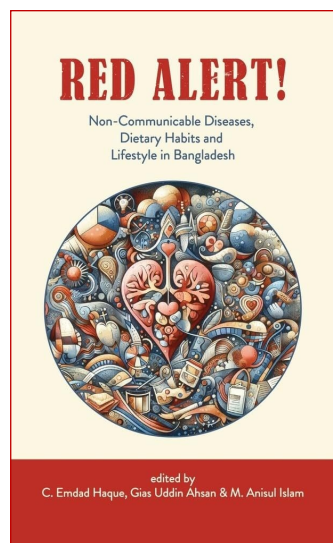
- Singers Rihanna, Nikki Minaj and Shaggy were all born on Caribbean islands.
- Alexander Hamilton, one of our country's Founding Fathers, was from the nation of St. Kitts and Nevis.
- Celia Cruz, a Cuban-American singer, was known as the Queen of Salsa in the 20th century.
- Roberto Clemente was the first Caribbean and Latin American player to be inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame. ■

Source: [caribbeanamericanmonth.com](http://caribbeanamericanmonth.com)

## Our Achievements

**Dr. Sei Eun Kim** was recognized as a leading researcher in the field of adolescent development by the prominent South Korean newspaper, *Aju Business Daily*.

**Dr. Helal Mohiuddin**, our FSHD visiting professor, co-authored a chapter titled "Food Habits, Lifestyle, and NCDs among the Garo Indigenous People: An Urban Population in Transition" for the book, *Red Alert! Non-Communicable Diseases, Dietary Habits and Lifestyle in Bangladesh* (Dhaka: University Press Limited).



## Celebrating FSHD's Newest PhDs

Doctoral students in the Family Science and Human Development PhD program employ a social justice perspective to understand and strengthen individuals, families, and communities. The program uses a holistic approach to incorporate interdisciplinary research, policy, and prevention and education programming.

We are proud to congratulate five students who worked tirelessly to earn their PhDs during the Spring semester!



### Dr. Carlee Denholtz

*"Who Gets it Right? A Critical Policy Analysis of United States' and Finland's Maternity Leave Policies"*

Dissertation Chair: Dr. Miriam Linver

### Dr. Marline Francois

*"Nurturing Black Girls: A Phenomenological Exploration of Black Girls Mental Health and Their Lived Experiences with Racial Discrimination in Schools"*

Dissertation Chair: Dr. Pearl Stewart

### Dr. Elvis Gyan

*"The Importance of Framing the Context of Black/African Americans' Livelihood to Enhance Health Outcomes and Mitigate Health Inequalities"*

Dissertation Chair: Dr. Brad van Eeden-Moorefield

### Dr. Rebecca Madson

*"The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Undergraduate College Students"*

Dissertation Chair: Dr. Chih-Yuan Steven Lee

### Dr. Paula Perrone

*"Disrupting the School to Prison Pipeline: The Potential of Preservice Teachers in Advancing Social Justice Education through Critical Consciousness"*

Dissertation Chair: Dr. Chih-Yuan Steven Lee ■

## Career Corner

With a degree in Family Science and Human Development, you can pursue a career as a...

### Trauma Therapist

Trauma Therapists provide specialized support and therapeutic interventions to individuals who have experienced traumatic events, to assist with emotional and psychological healing. These professionals help clients process and understand their experiences, navigate their emotions, develop coping strategies, and work towards recovery in a safe and supportive environment. They also empower individuals to rebuild their sense of control and hope for the future. ■



**FSHD faculty and staff celebrate the end of another busy, productive academic year within the department, as well as the graduation of nearly 130 undergraduate and PhD students. Pictured are (l-r) Gerry Costa, Lyndal Khaw, Shannon Bellum, Miriam Linver, Sei Kim, Pearl Stewart, Lisa Mills and Brad van Eeden-Moorefield.**

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Lisa Mills, Newsletter Editor

