



Social Work Educational Enhancement Project-Ráices



The Social Work Educational Enhancement Project (SWEEP)-Ráices is a grant awarded to the Facundo Valdez School of Social Work (FVSSW) from the Department of Education's Developing Hispanic Serving Institutions program. SWEEP-Ráices works to support the enrollment, retention, and graduation of social work students, with a focus on Hispanic/Latino and under-resourced communities by building meaningful relationships with students, faculty, staff, and community.

Outreach

Through SWEEP-Ráices we have developed a statewide community-based outreach model, that includes youth/high school, institutions of higher education, and workplace/community outreach. Our outreach approach utilizes what we call the Social Work Career Plática; plática translates to discussion or conversation in English and often involves storytelling and relationship building. For the Social Work Career Pláticas, we pair a current student and faculty/staff member, ideally from the local community, to discuss with the audience what social work is, career paths, and share story on what brought them to the field. Our hope is that through the pláticas we can spark interest in pursuing a degree in social work, ultimately increasing the number of social workers to serve our communities, while also building community wide knowledge on what social work is and the breadth of practice. If interested in hosting or participating in a Social Work Career Plática contact us at SWEEP@nmhu.edu.

Student Supports and Community Building

SWEEP-Ráices provides supports and resources for our current FVSSW students by providing opportunities to build human and navigational capital, while simultaneously creating community. Through the development of a three-tier advisement model consisting of advisement drop-ins, faculty advisement, and enhanced advisement we seek to meet the multidimensional needs of students during their academic journey. Additionally, SWEEP-Ráices hosts the Social Work Student Success Series, which includes social work career panels, peer to peer mentorship, and opportunities to build academic wellness skills. Beyond students, we also provide supports and build meaningful relationships with other constituents of the grant, including staff, faculty, alumni, and the community at large. To learn more about SWEEP-Ráices opportunities and resources, contact us at SWEEP@nmhu.edu.

