



Council for Standards in Human Service Education

*Assuring best practices in Human Service Education through
evidence-based standards and a peer-review accreditation process*

<https://cshse.org>

3337 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314-5219
571-257-3959

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ACSW
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University of Alaska

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Vice President Accreditation
Lehigh Carbon Community College
(ret.)

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October 30, 2022

Dr. LaTonya Lee Niang, LCAS, CCS, Program Director, Human Services Technology
Cape Fear Community College
411 North Front Street,
Wilmington, North Carolina 28401

Re: CSHSE Board Decision- Approved Initial Accreditation

Dear Dr. Niang

As the CSHSE Vice President of Accreditation, I am pleased to inform you that the Human Services associate degree program at Cape Fear Community College has been approved for initial accreditation by the CSHSE Board at its October 2022 meeting. The Human Services associate degree program is accredited with no conditions from October 2022-October 2027.

The Readers noted many strengths of the Program:

- The program is very innovative in its alignment with North Carolina state's need for substance abuse practitioners.
- The program is specific in its goals of knowledge and skill development for students seeking a career in the field of addiction and recovery.
- The program also offers training in the knowledge and skill development of human service generalists
- The program collaborates with the North Carolina Workforce Development Program.
- The program requires 300 hours of work-based learning meeting the CSHSE standard for fieldwork hours and preparing the students to take the requirements for North Carolina state's substance abuse certification after graduation.
- The program includes innovative self-care coursework which requires self-reflections, labs, recordings of student reactions to cases, and student peer support.
- Administration recognizes the need for the program and the potential growth opportunities.
- Program graduates have the opportunity to continue education as the College has an articulation agreement with Gardner Webb University in North Carolina.

Additional Reader Recommendations not required by or related to the Standards.

- The program should consider expanding the advisory board to include more community members and fieldwork supervisors as a means to develop stronger relationships.
The program should consider building its community connections and leveraging college partnerships to expand field site opportunities to hospitals and new recovery development programs, increase diverse volunteer opportunities, all of which may potentially help with program funding.
- The Program should consider including more national partnership resources, and organizations, e.g., National Organization of Human Services, Southern Organization of Human Services, to support student human service professional development.



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- Consider program growth opportunities by increasing program options outside of the area of addiction, e.g. cross discipline instruction with health science program, identify other human service generalist employment opportunities in the local area, etc.
- When writing the next Interim Report, ensure better congruency between the self-study narrative and curriculum MATRIX so that the narrative reflects and supports the skill and knowledge levels of the courses noted on the MATRIX.

The next accreditation cycle will be an Interim Report and Review with no site visit. The Interim Report must be completed within the timeline for the October 2027 Board review. **A copy of this letter must be included in your next self-study.**

As an accredited program, the Program must regularly review information on the CSHSE website, <https://cshse.org>, for any new changes in policies and standards. Your program must use the standards that are in effect at the time when the application is submitted for the next cycle.

During this accreditation cycle, your accredited program has the responsibility to maintain active CSHSE membership each year of the accreditation cycle for the accreditation status to remain in good standing. Refer to Member Handbook, Accreditation and Self-Study Guidelines for updated information. Additionally, the accredited program shall ensure that the program representative contact information remains current with CSHSE and is updated as needed.

Please refer to the Board actions for maintaining accreditation in Appendix I of the Member Handbook. Your Program must ensure that program and student achievement indicators on the CSHSE website remain accurate (within 2 years of the current academic year) and the hyperlinks remain active. The CSHSE will review this information at each board meeting during the year: February, June, and October. Contact the CSHSE VPA if a hyperlink must be revised so that our website is current with your program information.

Congratulations on becoming an accredited program with the Council for Standards in Human Service Education and supporting quality and excellence human services education.

A formal certificate, signed by our President, Dr. Yvonne Chase, will be forthcoming.

Sincerely,

Winona Schappell, M.Ed., HS-BCP
CSHSE Vice President of Accreditation

Cc: Mr. Jim Morton, President
Dr. Mary Ellen Naylor, Dean, Health and Human Services
Dr. Yvonne Chase, CSHSE President
Dr. Julia Bernard, CSHSE Secretary, Lead Reader
Dr. Susan Kinsella, CSHSE VP of Publications serving as Board Member-at- Large consultant