



# Our Vision & Mission

**All individuals, families, & communities utilize their power to achieve justice, equity, & well-being.**

The University of Kansas School of Social Welfare, rooted in the Strengths Perspective, aims to transform lives and social contexts and promote social, economic, and environmental justice in Kansas, the nation and the world. We do so by educating students to practice with integrity and competence; advancing the science and knowledge base of social work through scholarship and research; and participating in community-engaged service.

## Guiding Principles & Values

**Relationship Building:** We engage in relationship building that fosters creativity, collaboration, and mutual learning. Relationship building is essential across practice, scholarship, education and service. We take a strengths approach as we serve our local, state, national, and global communities.

**Diversity, Equity and Inclusion:** We embrace the inherent worth of all people. By taking the position of cultural humility and applying the lens of intersectionality, we seek to develop and promote modes of anti-oppressive social work and dismantle structures of exclusion.

**Practice with Integrity:** We demonstrate our integrity and trustworthiness as scholars, educators, practitioners, and community members by promoting social work values, ethical practice, and the process of critical reflection.

**Multisystem Competency:** We recognize that social, economic, and environmental injustices are the root causes of inequities and multiple strategies are necessary to address these. Our work integrates micro/macro social work and builds collaboration across systems and disciplines to create multi-level change.

**Critical Perspective:** We engage in deliberate and continuing examination of social conditions and solutions. We use critical inquiry to analyze and challenge existing structures and systems in order to advance the field and promote social, economic, and environmental justice.

**Empirically Informed Social Work:** We rigorously advance empirical research that impacts the social work knowledge base. By translating and applying evidence, we continually transform practice and policy across multiple systems.

## Goals

To **prepare B.S.W., M.S.W. and Ph.D. students** to practice with integrity and attain multi-level competency while working to promote well-being and build community.

To **conduct, disseminate, and translate** theoretical and empirically informed **scholarship and research** that impacts the social work knowledge base and transforms practice and policy.

To **promote social, economic, and environmental justice** through service at local, state, national, and international levels.