IMPROVING THE LIVES OF INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

Develop in-demand, practical knowledge and skills for working with people in many stages of life. HDFS undergraduate programs include:

CHILD LIFE

• Help children and families cope with the stress of illness, injury, and medical treatment

FAMILY & LIFESPAN DEVELOPMENT

• Understand and support children, adults, families, and relationships throughout the lifespan

MINOR IN HDFS

• Complement another degree with specialized knowledge about development and relationships

UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN APPLIED CHILD AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

• Understand key milestones, challenges, and contexts critical to working with this population

CAREER PATHS

- Relationship and parenting education
- Family/social service agencies
- Afterschool/positive youth development programs
- Pediatric health care settings
- Early childhood education
- Family advocacy programs
- Cooperative Extension
- Refugee/immigrant supports
- Older adult support programs
- Policy analysis and advocacy
- Crisis shelters and centers
- Social service program
- Prevention/intervention
- Foster care and adoption
- Military support services





"I have used my student volunteer and practicum experience as a guide for how to best support the volunteers and students I now supervise. I am able to transfer that to my teaching style to better support others. "

KRISTIN BROWN | BS '13 Child Life

Child Life Specialist, Golisano Children's Hospital



"The FLD program prepared me to open my own early childhood program through hands-on experience, practicing in-detail childhood program planning, and instruction and leadership from seasoned early educators."

KRISTA BEAIRD | BS '20 AMILY & LIFESPAN DEVELOPMEN

Early Childhood Focus

Director, Spirited Child Early Learning Center



"Adoption and foster care is often stressful and unpredictable. I frequently use what I learned as an HDFS student about how everyone is shaped by their own experiences to help families cope with the changes."

ALLIE FREESE | BS '18 FAMILY & LIFESPAN DEVELOPMENT Family/Relationships Focus

Foster Care Adoption Specialist, Cornerstones of Care

PREPARE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES

- Work with children, individuals, couples, families, and communities in diverse contexts
- Hands-on work in research labs, Child Development Lab, and practica/internships

PREPARE FOR A GRADUATE DEGREE

study in related fields: education, nursing, social work, family law, business administration, gerontology, counseling, or marriage and family therapy

Build a strong foundation for advanced

DIVERSE COURSE CONTENT

- Dating, marriage, and interpersonal relationships
- Development across the lifespan
- Families and health; Aging families
- Parent-child and sibling relationships
- Racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic diversity





MU Child Development Lab

QUESTIONS? CONTACT:

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