

## Notable Social Work Alumni of the Year Recipient



*Ms. Jackie Dean Rousey, BSW Alumna*

Ms. Jackie Dean earned her undergraduate degree in Social Work (and a minor in Veteran Studies) from Eastern Kentucky University. Her graduate work (MSW) was completed at Campbellsville University. Despite being new in the profession, Jackie's expertise has already been recognized in a number of ways. Jackie's career began with the Central Kentucky Recovery Center, in Lexington. In November 2016, she joined the staff of Kentucky River Foothills Development Council, Inc. as a case manager in the Supportive Services for Veteran Families program. This position allowed her to combine interests in both social work and service to veterans. Soon her commitment to excellence in social work practice, effective teamwork skills, and ability to engage community partners in supporting the agency's work, positioned Jackie for recognition as a "rising star" within the agency. In June 2019, she was promoted to the position of Program Coordinator for Foothills' Rural Communities Opioid Response Program Planning Grant. She excelled in the role which resulted in two documents (community needs assessment and strategic plan) that she wrote being considered as "models" and retained in a resource database by the program's federal funding source (HRSA). Early in 2020, she was again promoted to the position of Community Services Director where she managed the agency's Community Services Block Grant including supervising several social work staff. Then in November 2020, she was selected to become the director of the Eastern Scholar House. Jackie's outstanding contributions have been enhanced by her social work skills as well as the myriad other attributes that she possesses while she continues to help make life better for others through her work.



For more information about social work at Eastern Kentucky University visit <https://socialwork.eku.edu/> or email [social.work@eku.edu](mailto:social.work@eku.edu)