

2021 - 2028 Strategic Plan

Climbing Higher Together

**COLLEGE OF HEALTH &
HUMAN SERVICES AT WKU**





College of Health & Human Services

Applied Human Sciences • Communication Sciences & Disorders
Kinesiology, Recreation & Sport • Nursing & Allied Health
Physical Therapy • Public Health • Social Work

Dean's Introduction

Hello and welcome to the College of Health and Human Services (CHHS) at Western Kentucky University. It's a privilege to be the leader of over 4,000 faculty, staff, and students who share my commitment to research, teaching, and community engagement. We have worked collaboratively over the last year to develop a shared vision of becoming, "an innovative leader in the student-centered, interprofessional, preparation of health and human services professionals by providing students with an inclusive, community-engaged, and interdisciplinary academic experience." I look forward to working with all of you as we Climb Higher Together towards this vision.



As a college, our greatest strength is the depth of diverse degree programs. We house seven academic units that represent a wide variety of health and human service programs, all unique with innovative research programs and strong ties to the community. In the classroom, we provide a solid foundation that will prepare students to become strong and innovative leaders in their chosen fields. Furthermore, students have access to invaluable experiences in clinics and labs, and through fieldwork and internships at facilities, agencies, and organizations within our region; fostering personal development and engagement in our community and beyond.

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance of our health and human services fields and increased the demand for highly prepared professionals in these fields. So, now is an excellent time to join the CHHS family! And for those of you, who are already a part of the CHHS family, we invite you to engage with our current students by guest lecturing in a class, providing internships or job opportunities, and/or philanthropic support. Stay tuned for additional ways to get linked to CHHS in the future!

Finally, I invite you to visit our beautiful campus and to explore our newly updated website to learn more about the countless opportunities through each of our programs, organizations, and resources. Come and discover the possibilities and climb to greater heights with us!

Tania B. Basta, Ph.D., MPH
Dean, College of Health and Human Services
Western Kentucky University

Vision

To be an innovative leader in the student-centered, inter-professional, preparation of health and human services professionals by providing students with an inclusive, community-engaged, and interdisciplinary academic experience.

Mission

We prepare health and human services professionals who will work to improve the quality of life in their communities and beyond.

Core Values:

The College of Health and Human Services, values each of the following as they relate to teaching, research, and service:



Diversity, Equity and Inclusion - Support and engage in practices which promote diversity, endorse equity, and foster inclusion. Our value of DEI is woven throughout the College and exemplified through relationships across faculty, staff, students, and the communities we serve.



Community-engagement – Encourage students, faculty, and staff to involve the “community” in responding to issues that affect quality of life.



Interdisciplinary/inter-professional approaches – Foster an environment in which faculty and students learn across disciplines to develop shared understanding.



Ethical practices and integrity – Demonstrate ethical decision-making and behavior and teach the importance of ethical practices in our fields.



Collaboration – Work together with key stakeholders to achieve common goals.



Student-Centered – Create an environment in which individual needs of the students are prioritized.



Innovation – Foster an environment that supports the creation of new ideas.





Strategic Initiatives:

1

Increase recruitment, retention, and graduation rates of a diverse body of CHHS students.

2

Enhance the productivity of research and creative activity among CHHS faculty and graduate students.

3

Promote excellence in applied, interprofessional, student-centered teaching.

4

Foster diversity, equity, and inclusion among CHHS students, faculty & staff.

5

Enhance local, regional, and global community-engaged experiences for faculty, staff, and students.

6

Create efficiencies, maximize resources, maintain facilities, and support the CHHS mission and vision.

7

Increase alumni engagement through philanthropy, service and social media.





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institution of higher education and upon request provides
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