Congratulations Social Work Graduates!

NASW Michigan Chapter Elections
Social Work Students of the Year
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Eastern Michigan University

MSW Student Representative
Michael Enright II - 2013
Eastern Michigan University

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macombe2@chater.net

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CCNLI Region 9 & 10
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What's inside ...

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Questions about your state license? Contact the Department of Community Health Bureau of Health Professions, at 517.335.0918, bhpinfo@michigan.gov or www.michigan.gov/healthlicense.

Questions about continuing education requirements or how to become a continuing education provider? Visit www.socialworkcec.com or Contact Robin Mingus at 517.487.1548 Ext.17, rmingus@nasw-michigan.org.
NASW-Michigan thanks the Upper Peninsula social workers and the faculty and students of Northern Michigan University for being such great hosts to the multiple events held last month. Congratulations to Rebekah Fiorenza on being chosen as the Northern Michigan University Student of the Year and Rebecca Allers on being the 2013 Ulink Advocate of the Year!

Registration is open for the June 13-14 mini-conference at the MacMullan Center in Roscommon at the NASW-MI website. If you are not familiar with the MacMullan Center, consider looking at the Website. It is a great opportunity for CE's and for bringing friend/family as there are lots of things to do for family while you are in sessions. They have 8 miles of hiking trails, a private beach on Higgins Lake, kayaks and canoes for inexpensive rent. Children ages 6 - 10 receive a 50% meal discount and children 5 and under eat free. There are volleyball nets in and out of the lake, North Higgins Lake State Park is right next door and Hartwick Pines is about 15 miles away. There is an option to stay an extra night, so a mini-conference could become a mini-vacation, and a creative way to celebrate Father’s Day. (Cross your fingers for rainless days then, as that will give us some options for meals on the beach, and the Thursday evening program of Native American drumming and the Odawa Indian DVD to be shown outside next to the fire pit.

Happy Spring Region 3 NASW-MI members. Region 3’s monthly meeting will be on May 13, 2013 at 6:00 pm at the Lewiston Lodge over dinner. Come meet the Region 3 Board Representative candidate, Jackie Sink. We will also be discussing/planning the June meeting of Regions 3 and 2 that will take place at the MacMullan Center in Roscommon June 13-14 - see attached flyer.

This group will meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 6:00-7:00pm at Project Reach Services Counseling & Personal Growth Center (3501 Lake Eastbrooke Blvd., Suite 110, Grand Rapids, MI 49546). This center is located in the Lake Eastbrooke Professional Building on the corner of Lake Eastbrooke and Camelot St, across the street from AMF Eastbrooke Lanes. All social workers & students are invited to attend. To RSVP for the meeting, please contact Lisa Townsend, Region 4 Board Representative, at ltp.reach@sbcglobal.net.

Region 5 - Central Michigan
Region 5 social workers interested in professional support or networking are invited to contact Kim Johnson, Region 5 Board Representative, at ksjohns2@svsu.edu.

Region 6 - Ingham, Eaton, Livingston, Clinton, & Shiawassee Counties
Membership tip: Did you know you can print off your membership card and certificate on your member profile page at www.socialworkers.org?

Region 7 - Genesee, Lapeer, St. Clair, Tuscola, Sanilac & Huron Counties
Congratulations to all of the social work graduates of 2013! Check the NASW-Michigan website to get a step-by-step guide to getting your social work license.

Make sure to vote in this years’ NASW-Michigan election. Region 8 social workers interested in professional support or networking are invited to contact Susan Worthing, Region 8 Board Representative, at js_worthing@yahoo.com.

Social workers are encouraged to check out NASW-MI’s ‘Legislative Action Center’ and keep up to date and take action on many political and legislative issues impacting the profession.

Join Region 10 members for a free 1.5 CE Humor=Health event on June 17, 2013 from 12-1:50pm at the Office of Bonnie Holiday, LMSW, ACSW (2301 E. Michigan, Ste. 106, Jackson, MI 49201). There will be education on the healthy benefits of humor and laughter on the bio/socio/emotional areas of life. To be covered are the definition of humor, types, how to recognize humor, benefits and healing power and where and when humor is beneficial to the Social Work venue.

Region XI is excited to collaborate with Linda Yellin, LMSW of Feet on the Street tours. She has kindly agreed to accommodate us on Saturday, May 11th from 9:30-12pm for an amazing food tour of Detroit. CEs for SW will be offered and the fee is only $30.00. Pre-registration is required.

www.nasw-michigan.org
Maxine Thome, Executive Director, NASW-Michigan

I want to thank everyone who attended Legislation Education and Advocacy Day (LEAD) and those who were able to attend our conference this year. Most of all I want to thank all of you for your membership. As we approach the next major election year we will have an opportunity to support and vote for candidates that hold the mission and values of social work. LEAD and the conference provided an opportunity to be educated on critical issues facing our state as well as on methods for advocacy and action. The conference is called “A Meeting of the Profession” and it provided a great opportunity to meet and talk with other social workers about cutting edge professional issues.

As I think back on the conference and LEAD I am reminded of how important it is for us, as social workers, to stay on top of legislation that is critical to our profession and to the lives of the people we serve. NASW-Michigan has the responsibility of keeping you, our members, aware of plans, policy, and legislation that impact our practice.

So where am I headed with this? There is legislation that is currently moving from the House to the Senate (and from the Senate to the House) that can be damaging to our clients and to our communities. What we are seeing and working hard to change are bills/issues that appear to make it harder for Michigan citizens to transition out of poverty and have access to good health care.

As many of you may already know, if Medicaid expansion goes through 400,000 uninsured Michigan residents will receive health insurance and approximately 90,000 citizens will be able to receive mental health services. The legislature has tried hard to block Medicaid expansion. There are amendments proposed that will allow for an altered approach to the proposed refusal to allow for Medicaid expansion. One such amendment asks that recipients pay 5% of their income to an HSA which will support the Medicaid effort after the Federal dollars leave in 2017. If a family has an income of $30,000 that means that $1500 of their income (over $125 per month) goes into the HSA. On the other hand it is believed that the savings by using Federal funds would more than allow for continuation of Medicaid expansion beyond the 2017 period. NASW member and Director of MDCH Jim Haveman, LMSW, is working hard to assure that some form of Medicaid expansion does go through the legislature. Director Haveman needs social work support, and NASW-Michigan encourages all of you to contact your senators to support the expansion.

Another bill that NASW-Michigan is tracking and is of great concern is the EAA (Michigan Education Achievement Authority) which does what the Emergency Manager system does but for schools that are appearing to be low achievement schools. This bill allows for there to be an education administrative authority to come into a school system and take over governing authority, thereby rendering the existing public school board almost powerless. At this time the EAA appears to be targeting poorer urban public school. The number of schools covered will increase over time. It is NASW-Michigan perspective that the EAA will not improve the quality of education provided. It is also believed that public schools are critical to the education of Michigan children.

Another bill (but not the last) that NASW-Michigan has concerns about is the HB 4118 which allows for substance use testing of individuals receiving cash assistance from DHS who appear to be “suspicious” of using substances. A concern is the definition of “suspicion” and what the training will be for the worker(s) determining suspicion and administering the testing. The bill has been amended to state that an individual who tests positive will be referred for treatment. Many of us are aware that there have been ongoing cuts to substance abuse programs and treatment centers which leave a bleak picture for referrals.

As you can see there is a lot happening that needs discussion and action by social workers in the field. We need to be sure that we understand the legislation and the ramifications of the bills that are moving through our legislature. It is a good time to meet with our representatives and push for different solutions. As a profession, social work was founded on advocacy for those whose voices are not being heard and this is clearly a time when the voices of Michigan’s disenfranchised populations are not heard. We have a lot to do and we need to continue to be more than one voice. Please join NASW-Michigan in our efforts to be heard.
2013 NASW-Michigan Chapter Elections

Listed below is the final slate for the 2013 NASW-Michigan Chapter Elections. Voting will begin on Wednesday, May 15th and close at 5:00pm on Friday, June 5th. Votes will be collected using a secure online method and by paper ballots (which can be mailed or faxed in).

**Please be on the watch for an email on May 15th with voting instructions and details**

**Full candidate statements can be found at www.nasw-michigan.org**

**President Elect (1 year term, followed by 2 years as President)**
- Cindy Ahmad, LMSW-Macro
- Kelvin Banks, MA, MSW, LLMSW
- Bruce Thomson, LMSW, MS

**Vice President of Standards and Services (3 year term)**
- Derek Johnson, LMSW
- Elvia Krajewski, MSW, PhD, LMSW
- Alan McBroom, LMSW, C-ASWCM

**Secretary (3 year term)**
- Anita Clos, MA, LMSW, ACSW
- Judith Thompson, MSW, LMSW

**Regional 3 Representative (3 year term)**
- Jacqueline Sink, LLBSW

**Regional 7 Representative (3 year term)**
- Frederick Schade, MSW, ACSW, LMSW

**Regional 8 Representative (3 year term)**
- Mary Damone, LMSW, ACM, CSA
- Karen Pfuerstinger, LLBSW
- Abby Segal, LMSW, LCSW, MJLS

**BSW Student Representative (1 year term)**
- Jennifer Bugeja
- Amber Hendrick
- Armida Marinov

**MSW Student Representative (1 year term)**
- Kimberly Bailey
- Jason Cross
Social Work Licensure Checklist

Are you a recent graduate? The next step in your social work journey is to get licensed. In Michigan, anyone who wants to call themselves a social worker must be licensed. Please follow these simple step by step instructions on the licensure process in Michigan.

Step 1: Obtain a social work degree from an accredited institution (BSW or MSW)

Step 2: Research and understand the requirements and process of social work licensure in Michigan (www.nasw-michigan.org)

Step 3: Apply for your Limited License – Through Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) (www.michigan.gov/lara)
   - Submit correct paperwork/application ($40)
   - Have your fingerprints taken ($60)
   - Have school submit certificate of education

Step 4: To be completed during 7 years during limited license period
   - Obtain supervision by LMSW (200 Hours. Roughly 1 hour per week)
   - Complete the required experience (4000 Hours. Roughly 2 years full time)
   - Must work a minimum of 16 hour and maximum of 40 hours per week
   - Pass the licensure exam ($230 BSW, $260 MSW) (www.aswb.org)
   - Licensure preparation courses offered by MSU (gives a NASW member discount!), WSU and U of M
   - Practice tests available through ASWB ($75)

Step 5: Apply for your full license –
   - LBSW or LMSW (Clinical or Macro) ($40)

Step 6: (Optional – Obtain the second social work license)
   - Submit second application
   - Complete 2000 hours of work experience

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   - Two years of transitional housing

unique programming

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Please keep us in mind when you encounter people who might need our help.

Want more information?
www.dawnfarm.org
734.669.3550
2013 NASW-Michigan Annual Award Recipients

Each year, NASW-Michigan seeks to identify and acknowledge the unique contributions of its members towards advancing the profession. Five awards are presented annually to recognize outstanding social work practice in many practice areas including but not limited to, direct practice, administration, or community organizing and political/legislative advocacy. We were honored to present the follow awards at the 2013 Annual Meeting of the Profession Conference in April:

**Lifetime Achievement Award**
Deanna McGraw, LMSW, ACSW
Deanna McGraw with Family and nominator Janet Howes

**Stabenow Political Leadership Award**
Rep. Marcia Hovey-Wright, LMSW,
Marcia Hovey-Wright with NASW-MI Executive Director Maxine Thome

**Public Citizen of the Year**
Paul Palmer
Paul Palmer with nominator Robert Sheehan

**Lisa Putman Award for Excellence in Child Welfare**
Thomas McNally, MSW, LMSW, CPC
Thomas McNally with NASW - MI Board Member Cindy Ahmad

**Social Worker of the Year**
Ronald J. Calery, LMSW, ACSW
Ron Calery with Family
Thank you to the over 1000 social workers who attended this year’s Legislative, Education and Advocacy Day (LEAD) and Annual Meeting of the Profession Conference. Below are some of the scenes from this year’s events:

Morning keynote presenter Lonnie Scott inspires attendees to be legislative advocates to and make their voices heard!

Rep. Marcia Hovey-Wrights meets with students to talk about the responsibility social workers have to be advocates.

Oakland University social work students enjoying their time together at this year’s LEAD.
Executive Director Maxine Thome addresses the nearly 700 students, faculty and professional social workers at the Lansing Center.

Taking direct action on legislative issues.

Learning about the Michigan ‘lame duck’ and what issues social workers should be aware about in the current legislature.
A Conference to Remember 2013 Annual Meeting of the Profession

The NASW-Michigan Chapter Ethic Committees presents a panel on ethical considerations in social work practice.


State Representative Sam Singh energizes social work advocates about the importance of political participation and NASW-MI’s political action committee, MPACE.
Thursday keynote speaker Marcella Wilson inspires attendees about poverty combative initiatives occurring in Michigan.

Social Workers getting the most up-to-date information at one of nearly 60 workshops.

Students from Northern Michigan University learning about all aspects of the social work profession.
NASW-Michigan is proud to announce the winners of the Social Work Students of the Year Award. Students were nominated from each BSW and MSW program throughout the state for their leadership, academic achievements and contributions to the social work profession. Thank you to Grand Valley State University, the University of Michigan and to Saginaw Valley State University for hosting this year’s ceremonies.

The 2012-2013 winners:

Not Pictured: Cicely Weirs-Windemuller (WMU), Rebekah Fiorenza (NMU), Shannon Ericson (Cornerstone University), Marci Lennox (Madonna University), Heather Foster (MSU)
Upcoming Workshops

* Sex on the Download: When the Internet Disconnects your Relationship 6.0 CEs
  June 9, 2013
  9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
  NASW-Michigan Chapter Office
  741 N. Cedar St., Ste. 100.
  Lansing, MI 48906
  Cost: NASW Member: $100.00; Nonmember: $150.00
  Presenter: Joe Kort, PhD, LMSW, ACSW

Dr. Kort has been working in the field of sexology and sex addiction from the beginning of his career. He has written extensively on sexual issues, attends trainings and offers supervision and trainings all over the world on the topic of sexual addiction, sexual health and sexual orientation issues.

**Program Summary:** This presentation will discuss how to help couples face the crisis when one partner discovers that the other is secretly using pornography or connecting to potential partners online. We will explore its significance to the user and define limits. Finally, we’ll talk about helping the spouses develop empathy and validation, ultimately creating a more differentiated sex life.

**Program Objectives:**
- Understand the various ways clients are sexual on the internet
- Help therapists “crack the erotic code” and understand the hidden meanings of sexual fantasies and behaviors to help uncover the treatment and recovery
- Learn how to help couples work through feelings of betrayal and deceit

* Reflective Supervision, Native Americans and the Practice of Social Work. Mini-Conference
  June 13-14, 2013
  Ralph A. MacMullan Conference Center
  104 Conservation Dr.
  Roscommon, Michigan 48653
  Thursday, June 13
  4:00 - 5:30 PM: Registration and check-in
  5:30 - 6:30 PM: Dinner [Weather permitting, we’ll be dining beachside]
  6:30 PM - Workshop:
  Native American Culture: A Blending of Past and Present (1.0 CE) Greensky Women’s Drum Group, video “The Four Directions and the Wagankising Odawa,” Discussion (1CE)

Introduction and information about the Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians, along with a performance by the Greensky Women’s Drum Group with narrative on the meaning of the songs. Attendees will also view a DVD called, “The Four Directions and the Wagankising Odawa.” The DVD highlights the culture of the Odawa, combining ancient tradition and modern practice. Q&A with a reception to follow.

* Register at [www.nasw-michigan.org](http://www.nasw-michigan.org) (continued next page)
Friday, June 14
7:30 - 8:30 AM: Registration and Continental Breakfast
8:30 - 11:45 AM - Workshop:
The Role of Reflection and Supervision Across the Social Work Career (3.0 CEUs)
Presenter: Cheryl Williams-Hecksel, LMSW, ACSW

This workshop will allow participants to explore the role of reflective processes in social work professional development. The role of reflection will be explored across a developmental framework that ranges from student to senior professional. Strategies to use reflection to support continual learning and personal and professional development will be explored.

11:45 AM - 12:45: Lunch [Weather permitting, we’ll be dining beachside]
1:00 - 4:00 - Workshop:
The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA): Law, Ethics, and Policy for Serving American Indian/Alaska Native Children & Families in Michigan (3.0 CEUs)
Presenter: Stacey Tadgerson, Director, Office of Native American Affairs, State of Michigan

The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) was established in 1978 to prevent the breakup of Indian families and protect Indian tribes; replacing former U.S. termination and assimilation policy of previous decades. This introductory session spotlights historical trauma, ICWA, Indian law and ethics. The workshop is designed to provide caseworkers/practitioners with culturally competent tools to assist with serving families with integrity; implementing the law; working with Indian nations; and providing expert case management.

Therapist Needed!
Join our excellent staff at the Guidance Center, an established JCAHO Accredited outpatient mental health and substance abuse clinic with a strong referral base. Benefits include:
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Send Resume & Cover Letter To:
Program Director
Guidance Center
Adult & Family Services
19291 Northline Road
Southgate, MI 48195
Phone: 734-287-1500
FAX: 734-287-1660

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- Affordable liability insurance
- Job assistance/career information
- Award winning publications

Renew Your Membership Today!
Don’t wait until it’s too late, renew today! Go to www.socialworkers.org to remain up-to-date and active with NASW.

If your membership has lapsed, if you have recently become unemployed or if you have retired call the national membership number at 800.742.4089 to get your membership up to date!
I am a clinical licensed masters of social worker (LMSW) in my own private practice doing outpatient mental health psychotherapy in the patient’s home. I have had this practice for twenty-two years. My patients are elderly or disabled on Medicare who have a mental illness and in need of psychotherapy.

Psychotherapy is reimbursed by Medicare Part B when the psychotherapy is in the patient’s home. Medicare does not require the patient to be homebound, but to have some limits on their ability to leave the home.

LMSWs are the main providers of psychotherapy. There are more clinically trained social workers than psychiatrists, psychologists, and psychiatric nurses combined and those professions rarely or never provide mental health services in the home. LMSWs are trained to treat the whole person while focusing on the person within the environment.

Currently, Medicaid, unlike Medicare, does not reimburse independent licensed masters clinical social workers for outpatient mental health psychotherapy in the patient’s home.

This Medicaid policy restricts the access of elderly and those who are physically disabled from needed mental health services. This mental health access restriction negatively impacts physical health, resulting in increased health care costs.

Home Health Agencies’ social workers have limited number of visits and do not practice psychotherapy. Community mental health agencies may treat in the home, but only for those who have a long history of mental illness. Their intervention is usually when an individual is in crisis.

The proposed Integrated Care model for Dual Eligible Medicare and Medicaid recipients in Michigan has the danger of excluding in-home psychotherapy by independent LMSWs by following Medicaid, instead of Medicare guidelines.

Many elderly and disabled find it very difficult and nearly impossible to go to offices/clinics due to transportation difficulties and limited mobility. How will a person who is bedridden and suffering from depression access psychotherapy? If physicians are going to be reimbursed for treating patients in the patient’s home for physical problems, then LMSWs should also be reimbursed for psychotherapy in the patient’s home.

Mental health services need to be more available to individuals who require psychotherapy because we know how mental illness can adversely impact physical health and add to the cost of health care. For example, if a person has diabetes, arthritis, heart issues, MS or other medical problems, their chronic illness is worse if they have a mental illness, such as depression and/or anxiety. Untreated mental illness leads to poorer outcomes and increased costs.

Please contact me for any comments and/or questions.

Thank you,

James Karagon, LMSW, ACSW

NASW Diplomate in Clinical Social Work
Associate Professor of Social Work (Retired), BSW Program, Marygrove College
jkaragon@hotmail.com
Non-Profit of the Month
Michigan Association for Infant Mental Health

MI-AIMH promotes healthy social emotional relationships for all young children both within and outside of Michigan through support, training and advocacy as described below:

- MI-AIMH provides extensive trainings throughout the state including our biennial conference which will be held May 19-21, 2013.

- MI-AIMH successfully launched a nationally recognized plan for professional endorsement (Michigan Association for Infant Mental Health Endorsement for Culturally Sensitive, Relationship-Based Practice Promoting Infant Mental Health) to encourage competency and best practice in the infant and family field at multiple levels of service and across disciplines. To date 465 people have been approved for professional endorsement; 287 applications are in process. There are 14 Endorsement League states using the MI-AIMH professional endorsement system to promote professional development in their states.


- MI-AMH organized multiple, interdisciplinary reflective supervision and consultation groups to support competency across the state, promoting professional and personal growth.

- MI-AMH initiated a Diversity Fellowship Program (Marvin McKinney Diversity Fellowship) to nurture new voices and leadership within the infant mental health community in Michigan.

MI-AIMH produced two social and emotional development wheels, Baby Stages and Preschool Stages, reaching over 1,000,000 parents and professionals.

The mission of MI-AIMH is to promote and support nurturing relationships for all infants. MI-AIMH believes that each infant needs to be nurtured and protected by one or more consistent and stimulating caregivers who enjoy a permanent and special relationship with the baby. This relationship is essential for optimal social, emotional and cognitive growth.

MI-AIMH also believes that the failure to provide and maintain nurturing relationships, at least one, during infancy may result in significant damage to the individual and to society.

Therefore, MI-AIMH supports the following positions:

- Early intervention is an essential social policy, important from both a fiscal and a moral point of view.

- Early intervention can be effective for the individual infant only if offered in a manner that promotes and supports the infant-caregiver relationship as both the primary source of strength and growth.

- Early intervention is effective only when a family's culture is respected and approached as a strength and support.

- Support, training and advocacy for early intervention must become a cooperative venture that bridges traditional cultural, disciplinary, administrative and political boundaries.
The Michigan Chapter would like to welcome the following new members who have chosen to support their profession and participate in advocating for social work values. We hope that, as new members, you will consider sharing your experience and perspectives with the Association by joining a committee, attending a board meeting, or participating in a local program.

**Region 1**
Jennifer Gransell, L’Anse
Camille Sliger, Marquette
Austin Smith, Marquette

**Region 2**
Kara Catalano, Hersey
Shalene Glynn, Central Lake
Emily Nichols, Ludington

**Region 3**
Nancy Kotwicki, Ossineke
Amanda Weber, Gaylord

**Region 4**
Robin Ashworth, Saranac
Andrea Barts, Allendale
Christie Bolter, Grand Rapids
Andrea Boomgaard, Grand Rapids
Alicia Brink, Grand Rapids
Jennifer Driscoll, Grand Rapids
Derrick Freyman, Ironia
Jessica Hendon, Grand Rapids
Tracy Howard, Big Rapids
Andrea Jackson, Big Rapids
Edita Milanovic, Ada
Danielle Pelton, Grand Rapids
Robert Stewart, Grand Rapids

**Region 5**
Sandra Avery, Midland
Keri Bierlein, Bay City
Melissa Bilodeau, Saginaw
Jamie Brandmair, Midland
Katelyn Collins, Saginaw
Natasha Estill, Freeland
Karri Geiling, Coleman
Kari Halvorsen, Bay City
Erica Harvey, Saginaw
Maria Idzior, Mt. Pleasant
Nancy Kitchen, Midland
Shaina LaCasse, Bay City
Sara Melick, Munger
Kindra Mithcell, Beaverton
Renae Pullman, Chesaning
Rachel Tuma, Mount Pleasant
Audrey Wendt, Hope

**Region 6**
Joellen Arnold, Lansing
Nicole Badgley, Grand Ledge
Rita Blackwell, Lansing
Jennie Brown, Eagle
Susan Carsten, Durand
Rebecca Castle, Lansing
Janice Eickholt, New Lothrop
Stephanie Gardner, Leslie
Jessica Mesaros, East Lansing
Sarah Mohr, Brighton
Nicole Monta, Okemos
Kathleen Noble, Okemos
Breah REMINGTON, East Lansing
Timothy Teed, East Lansing

**Region 7**
Amber Deciechi, China Twp.
Elizabeth Dennis, Casco
Jessica Detrio, Mt Morris
Ayana Fordham, Burton
Vickey Gingrass, Clio
Barbara Grimes, Flushing
Lauren Major, Fenton
Pamela Nealy, Flint
Megan Snow, Davison

**Region 8**
Emily Horrigan, Troy
Amelia Jacobs, Rochester Hills
Kathryn Lamb, Bloomfield Hills
Helen Marsack, Macomb
Shannon Meier, Shelby Twp
Laura Mueller, Holly
Michaela Price, Commerce
Belma Salkic, Clinton
Allison Smith, Rochester Hills
Sherita White, Southfield
Nicholas Ziekelke, Ferndale

**Region 9**
Marjorie Bates, Berrien Springs
Tierene Coleman, Kalamazoo
Margaret Hiatt, Kalamazoo
Kimberly Johnson, Stevensville
Kimberly Patzer, Bridgman
Loren Perry, Eau Claire
Gina Richards, Galesburg
Elizabeth Stanish, Kalamazoo
Alexis Tatel, Union Pier
Candace Tramel, Berrien Springs
Jasmine Warren, Kalamazoo

**Region 10**
Deborah Anderson, Ypsilanti
Esther Ayers, Saline
Jeff Beckley, Ypsilanti
Laura Cambruzzi, Ann Arbor
Ella Clark, Ypsilanti
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Want to get involved? Contact Duane Breijak, Director of Member Services & Development, at 517.487.1548, ext. 15 or dbreijak@nasw-michigan.org. There are so many ways to get involved and NASW-Michigan needs YOU more than ever! We look forward to working with you in our efforts to enhance and improve the social work profession.

Don’t forget to ‘Like’ NASW-Michigan on Facebook today!
New Social Work Resources

New Practice Perspectives released by the national office.

*The School Social Worker in Crisis Situations: The Right Skills, The Right Professional*


The National Association of Social Workers (NASW) and the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) have developed *Best Practice Standards in Social Work Supervision* (hereafter “Supervision Standards”) to support and strengthen supervision for professional social workers. The standards provide a general framework that promotes uniformity and serves as a resource for issues related to supervision in the social work supervisory community.


The NASW Press and Oxford University Press are proud to announce the new, completely updated, revised and expanded 20th edition of the Encyclopedia of Social Work. This new edition of the Encyclopedia includes coverage of areas that have come to the fore since the 1995 publication of the 19th edition including demographic changes from immigration, technology, the implications of managed care, faith-based assistance, evidence-based practice, gerontology, and trauma and disaster. Each thoughtful article is written and signed by a top academic or social work practitioner and includes a bibliography for further reading.

Partnering with Oxford University Press for the first time, the 20th Edition endeavors to maintain the quality of the latest edition and at the same time to include new material to keep abreast of changes in the profession and society at large.

http://www.socialworkers.org/pubs/encyclopedia/default.asp

Special Congratulations/NASW-Michigan Member Updates

NASW-Michigan members Professor Letha Chadiha and Associate Professor Leslie Hollingsworth were both recipients of the 2013 Harold R. Johnson Diversity Service Award. The award recognizes University of Michigan faculty who are dedicated to the development of a culturally and ethnically diverse campus community.

Congrats NASW-MI member and Western Michigan University Social Work professor Linda Reeser on being named one of the top 25 female professors in Michigan!

Michigan Board of Social Work Licensing Director Rae Ramsdell, who has been a health regulatory board administrator for 26 years, has received the Board Administrator Award for outstanding commitment to social work regulatory board service from the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB).

The recognition is given annually by the association for work with individual jurisdictions. The international award was announced at ASWB’s Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly, held in November in Springfield, Ill.

The Association of Social Work Boards is the nonprofit association of social work regulatory boards in the United States and Canada. Members include 49 states and Washington, D.C., the U.S. Virgin Islands, and all ten Canadian provinces. The association owns and maintains the licensing examinations used in most member jurisdictions and is a central resource for information on the legal regulation of social work. ASWB’s mission is to strengthen protection of the public by providing support and services to the social work regulatory community in order to advance competent and ethical practices. Visit www.aswb.org for more information.

Ramsdell oversees 23 boards, and her social work chair, Anwar Najor-Durack, said that she “ensures that each board gets the support and attention needed to the extent that each and every board assumes they’re her ‘favorite.’” Najor-Durack credited Ramsdell with making particular contributions in communicating with social workers, social service agencies, and schools of social work. The second winner of the award for 2012 was Kris Chiles of Nebraska.
EAA Bill Passed by House

Despite strong opposition from every public education group, EAA legislation was passed on a purely party line vote just before legislative Spring Break, with 57 yes votes and 53 no votes. On March 5th, Rep. Lisa Lyons (R-Alto) introduced HB 4369, which would establish in statute the Education Achievement Authority (EAA). The House Education Committee heard heated testimony on the bill during two specially scheduled committee meetings. Rep. Lyons, chair of the committee, claimed that the language drafted “addressed concerns of education groups” from last term’s legislation (a charge “education groups” would dispute).

The EAA was originally created through an interlocal agreement under the Urban Cooperative Act by the Detroit Public Schools (DPS) and Eastern Michigan University in August 2011.

The EAA began at 15 schools in Detroit in September of last year. Along with Governor Snyder’s policy chief, Bill Rustem, EAA Chancellor John Covington testified at the hearing, ironically saying that the EAA rejects the “one size fits all approach” to education. Covington told the committee that he couldn’t guarantee that the EAA would turnaround education in Michigan, but that essentially, “let’s just try this.”

Proponents of the legislation presented data in committee claiming that it demonstrated that students were achieving gains of a year’s progress in less than a year. In fact, the tests were diagnostic tests, not achievement tests, and various factors including summer learning loss likely contributed to the extent of the “lowness” of the original scores. Opponents to the legislation pointed out how briefly the existing schools have been in the EAA—too briefly to demonstrate success—and the negative impact of eliminating local control on parental input. Rep. Theresa Abed (D-Grand Ledge) called in question the ability of “success coaches” to provide the kinds of mental health and social support services needed by many students who fail to make adequate progress. She pointed out that these success coaches are DHS caseworkers, not “social workers” as they have been improperly called.

As it passed the House, the bill would expand the EAA to 50 schools performing in the lowest 5 percent for three consecutive years. The original 15 would constitute the EAA, within up to 27 permitted by June 30, 2014; up to 27 through June 30, 2014, and maximum of 50 thereafter. The schools could get out of the EAA if the school improves performance for four consecutive years or if the superintendent of the district shows the school is attempting to reform itself with a redesign plan.

We understand that the Senate doesn’t like the House version, especially the ISD takeover piece, but that the Governor favors that idea. The bill awaits action in the Senate Education committee, chaired by Senator Phil Pavlov (R – St. Clair).

Medicaid Expansion Discussions Continue

Senate Appropriations Chair Roger Kahn (R-Saginaw) has raised concerns that the $200 million available from Medicaid expansion would be almost “impossible” to replace. These concerns carry over into other budgets besides the Department of Community Health budget still being considered by the Senate. Senator Kahn also spoke of a number of reforms that the legislature might consider, including making sure that Michigan is only paying for its own residents. Other choices he suggested included incentivizing personal responsibility, using an automatic assignment algorithm to increase assignments to HMO’s that have had success in reducing utilization, increasing utilization of living wills, and using a beneficiary monitoring program for recipients who have frequent hospital stays.

On April 30, the Senate had what some have considered a test vote on Medicaid expansion, with a 20-14 passage of an amendment that stripped out $103 million from the General Government budget bill that would have gone to the Governor’s special Medicaid savings account within the Department of Treasury. Some supporters of the amendment labeled it as simply “premature”, given that the Senate has not yet agreed upon the expansion.

The House had passed its version of the budget bills without including Medicaid expansion or any assumption of received revenue from the expansion. Discussions will continue on the matter in the Senate, where the DCH budget bill remains in the full Appropriations Committee, giving the
administration more time to press its case. There is obvious concern among supporters of Medicaid expansion about the difficulty of adding Medicaid expansion to the budget once the bills are in conference committee if neither chamber has included it in its version of that budget bill. NASW Michigan urges our members to take action on this item and contact their State legislators.

New Welfare Restrictions

Two new bills that could risk welfare recipients’ access to financial assistance passed the House of Representatives last week: HB 4118 (Jeff Farrington, R – Utica), and HB 4388 (Al Pscholka, R – Stevensville).

HB 4118 establishes a suspicion-based substance abuse screening and testing program for FIP applicants and recipients. At initial application and at redetermination, DHS must screen applicants for suspicion of substance abuse using “empirically validated substance abuse screening tools.” If the result gives the department reasonable suspicion that the applicant is using drugs, that applicant would have to take a substance abuse test. If the applicant refuses, they are ineligible for benefits (but can reapply after 6 months). If the applicant tests positive, they are referred to treatment. Those who test positive also have the cost of the test taken from their first benefit payment, once they qualify for benefits. This will first be piloted in three counties starting April 1, 2014, concluding March 31, 2015. Further action may go from there.

HB 4388 would end FIP benefits if a family member “is not in compliance with compulsory school attendance requirements.” This of course doesn’t count for home-schooled students. Both bills have passed the House and await action in the Senate Families committee.

Auto No-Fault

As the children’s song goes: second verse, same as the first, a little bit louder, a little bit worse. This session, Rep. Pete Lund (R – Shelby Twp) has again introduced legislation gutting Michigan’s auto no-fault insurance system. HB 4612 has already passed the House Insurance Committee and awaits action on the House Floor.

Decades ago, in order to control costs, the Michigan legislature created an automobile accident insurance system called “no-fault.” In exchange for giving up the right to sue for damages in catastrophic accidents, Michigan residents who are catastrophically-injured qualify for lifetime benefits if they need them.

Now, however, despite some $16 billion in assets, insurers claim that the current system is unsustainable. HB 4612 attempts to place limits on coverage:

• Lifetime benefit cap of $1 million;
• Payment only for “medically appropriate and medically necessary treatments
• Covered items must be reasonably likely to result in meaningful and lasting improvement (gone, apparently, are wheelchairs…)
• Covered items cannot be “primarily for the convenience of the individual or the caregiver”
• Rehab efforts must be “medically appropriate services that are reasonably likely to produce significant rehabilitation”
• 52-week limit on rehab (which can be extended another 52 weeks, and again after that, but only if it will produce significant improvement)
• 56 hour per week attendant care limitation (capped at $15 an hour), 16 hours a day (if the individual needs 24 hour care, the family must cover 8 hours)
• Limitation on home modifications and special vehicles
• Illusory premium reduction ($150) which can later be reversed

The bill is retroactive to any claim that occurred prior to passage of the bill. This bill, by all accounts, is more restrictive than last session’s legislation. The Coalition Protecting Auto No-Fault (CPAN) is asking for help from the provider and patient community in defeating HB 4612. ❇️

Legislative Update graciously provided by Capital Service, Inc.
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