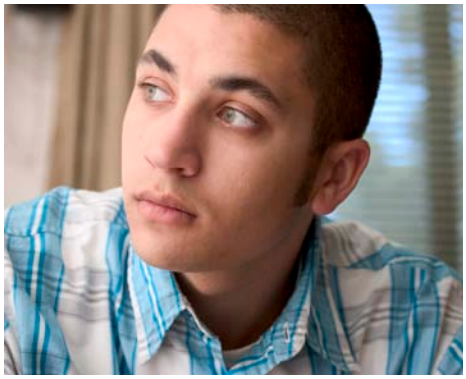
National Association of Social Workers
CALIFORNIA NEWS
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NASW Practice Perspective

Adolescent Depression and Suicide Risk: How Social Workers Can Make a Difference

By Sharon Issurdatt, LCSW, ACSW, DCSW, Senior Practice Associate



Introduction

The suicides of many young people have made national headlines over recent months. In 2007, suicide was the third leading cause of death for young people ages 15 to 24 (NIMH, 2010). Due to a growing effort to raise awareness and reduce stigmas regarding adolescent depression and suicide, more attention has been focused on these mental health issues ranging from local efforts to national agendas. One of the goals of the national initiative, Healthy People 2010, has been to reduce the number of teen suicide attempts. The aim is to reduce the percentage of youth who report suicide attempts requiring medical attention, from a 12-month average of 2.6 percent in 1999, to 1.0 percent by 2010 (Child Trends Databank, 2010). Further information on the attainment of this goal will reveal if these efforts have been successful.

Symptoms and Risk Factors

Many of the symptoms are similar for depression and suicide risk. Changes in behavior can be indicative of a young person struggling with his or her feelings. Some of these changes can be slow and gradual, making it difficult to recognize. It is important to recognize changes in adolescent behaviors such as: mood (e.g., irritability, inability to concentrate, angry outbursts, impulsivity, etc.); eating patterns; sleeping patterns; school achievement; school attendance; interest in social interactions and activities (usually seen in the form of withdrawal); and personal hygiene or dress.

Other symptoms include violence, running away, drug and/or alcohol use, complaints of physical pain such as headaches and stomach aches, the inability to tolerate positive interactions and praise, fatigue and/or lethargy, taking excessive risks, and a sense of hopelessness. Research has shown that young females are more likely to attempt suicide, while young males are more likely to commit suicide. The National Adolescent Health Information Center's 2006 fact sheet on Suicide of Adolescents and Young Adults highlights that young males are much more likely to commit suicide than their female peers, as well as the following:

- American Indian/Alaskan Native male adolescents have the highest suicide rate.
- The suicide rates for young adult males have fallen sharply in the past decade.
- Female adolescents are more likely to attempt suicide than their male peers.
- Suicide rates increase dramatically between early adolescence and young adulthood.
- Female Hispanic adolescents are more likely to attempt suicide than their peers.

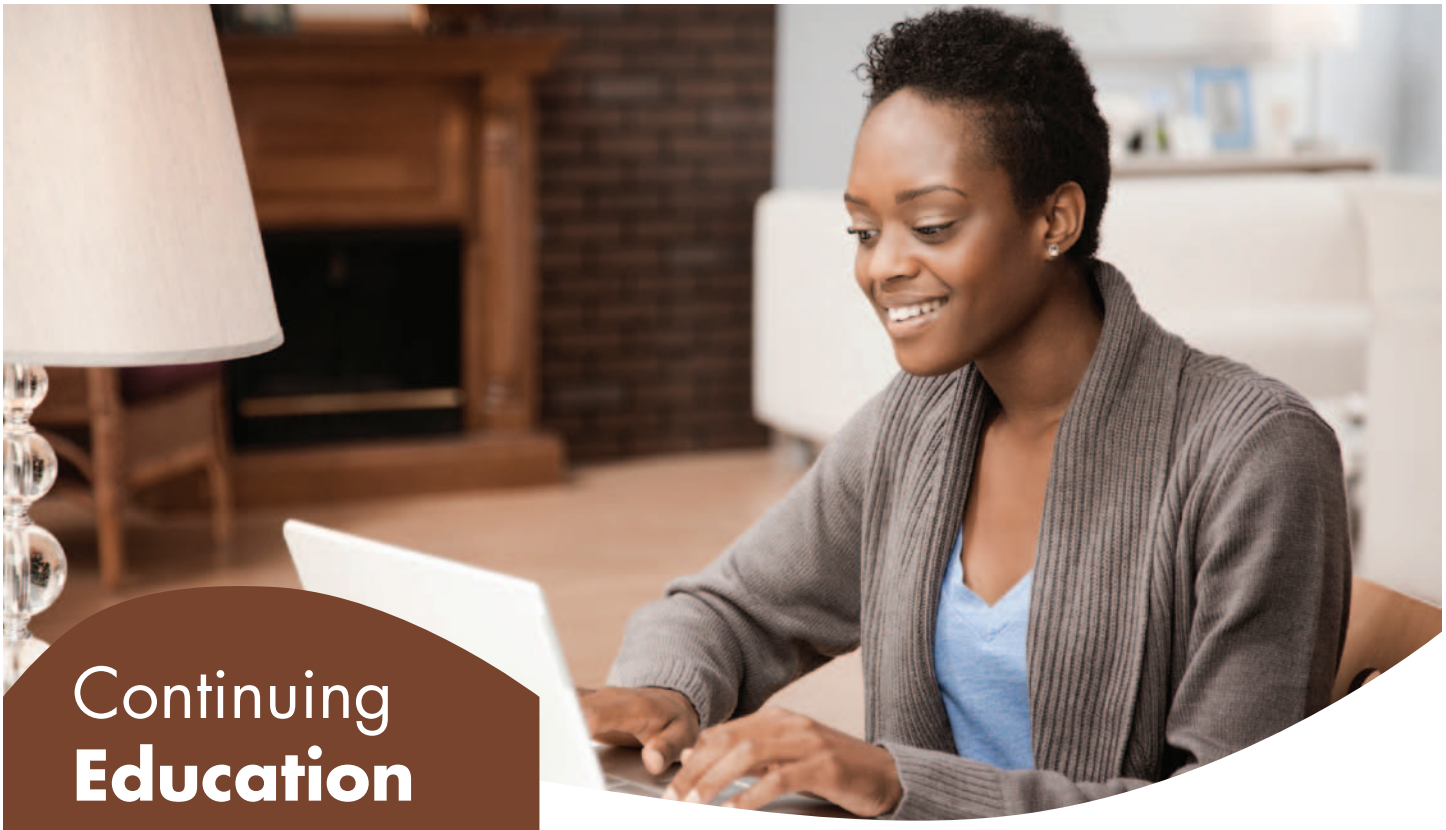
The National Institute on Mental Health (2010) reports that more than 90 percent of people who die by suicide, have depression, other mental disorders or a substance-abuse disorder. Risk factors include a previous suicide attempt, preoccupation with dying and previous psychiatric hospitalizations. Other significant risk factors include family history of mental disorder or substance abuse, family history of suicide, family violence, including physical or sexual abuse, firearms in the home and incarceration (National Institute on Mental Health, 2010). Recently many of the deaths making headlines involve adolescents who have been targets of various forms of bullying including being targeted due to their sexual orientation. According to the Health and Human Services Office of HIV/AIDS Policy on Bullying and Teen Suicide website, bullied teens are more likely to abuse drugs or alcohol, more likely to skip school and more likely to be depressed (2010). This national office also reports that four out of five gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender middle-schoolers say they are regularly harassed because of their actual, or perceived, sexual orientation or gender identity (2010). The HHS Office of HIV/AIDS Policy on Bullying and Teen Suicide also reports that gay, lesbian, bisexual teens are up to seven times more likely to have reported attempting suicide than their peers (2010).

The American Academy of Child and

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Social Work Month

By Mary Kay Oliveri, MSW, LCSW, Diplomate in Clinical Social Work

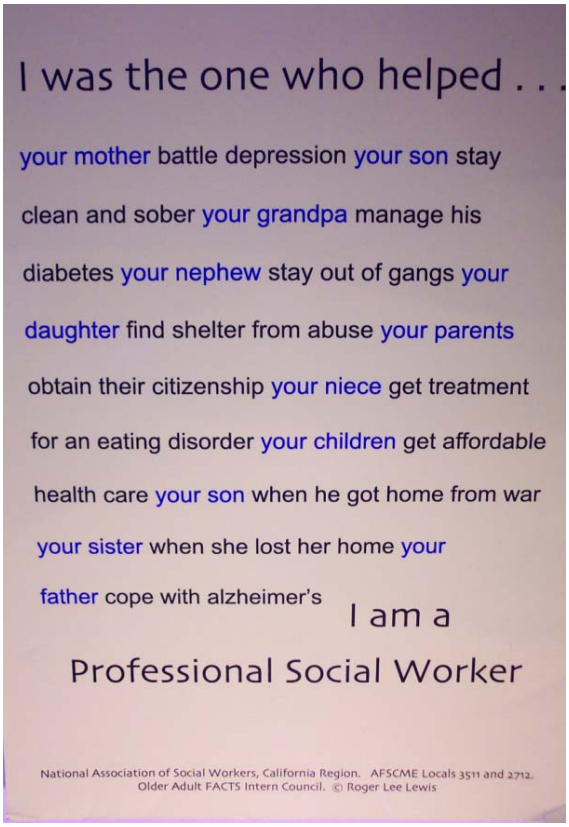


"Hope is the dream of a soul awake."

– French Proverb

Social Work Month is a time to celebrate and recognize our profession. Each of us engages day to day with others in the pursuit of better equity, access, support, resources and services that help meet the needs of others. And to empower other individuals, families and communities along their own life path. Social work helps to change the unique experience poverty, violence, loss, illness and survival pose to each of us in the social collectives we share. We support those struggling with growth, aging, crisis, employment, unemployment, health, mental health, immigration, access to education and social services. I applaud you for being one of us! We are social workers. And, to be who we are, we have to be awake. ◉





FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Closing of Hull House

By Janlee Wong, MSW



Usually March Social Work Month is a time to laud the accomplishments of professional social work and inspire us to rise up to the many challenges that continue to exist in an unjust society.

At the beginning of this Social Work Month, we have sad news to report that the Hull House programs and services (not the museum) in Chicago closed down in the last days of January. We don't know the whole story as to why, but financial difficulties were certainly one of the problems.

After 120 years of Hull House, life has indeed come full circle. Hull House started with no money, a generous donor who rented the house for $1, and the incredible dedication of Jane Addams, Ellen Gates Starr and many others. The closure of Hull House allows us to rethink that same origin that our modern founders started with.

Will we see the demise of publicly funded services with deficit and budget hawks unrelenting? Probably not, because the social welfare system that has been built over the last 120 years isn't going away. All of Hull House's accomplishments and its ideas for a just and humane society have spread throughout the country to the modern welfare state that we have today.

What Hull House's closure does tell us that while some of us in the nonprofit and government sectors might feel we're starting off where Jane was 120 years with no money, we still have a large array of services that she didn't have. What it means for social workers is that we have a chance to rethink and reinvent what we are doing.

Jane and her contemporaries had to learn what worked and what didn't. After 120 years, professional social workers have the benefit of research, higher education and experience. Along the way we have become more sophisticated and scientific about our approach.

Hull House's legacy is not programs and services, it's us; it's professional social work. Thank you Jane and happy Social Work Month. ◉

Social workers everywhere are sad to hear about the closure of the Chicago social service agency Hull House, which was founded to offer resources of culture, education, assistance and recreation to those in need. This closure is a sad example of cuts to human social services, which affect not only our clients, but us as social workers as well.

Hull House has been providing child care, job training, housing assistance and other services for more than 120 years in the Chicago area. The closure of such a longtime symbol of hope in the social work community is an upsetting event that will likely affect other human service organizations, some of which have already stepped up to provide services in Hull House's stead. News of the closure was announced for the spring 2012, but was unexpectedly closed on a mid-January afternoon due to financial difficulties.

Through seeing such an incredible human service organization close, let us use a strengths-based perspective and continue on with our endeavors of providing best practice approaches to clients; when one door closes, another door opens, and the legacy left behind by Hull House founder Jane Addams will not be forgotten.

NASW-CA CHAPTER STAFF DIRECTORY

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CNLI PRESENTS 2012 CALIFORNIA CHAPTER ELECTION SLATE

The Chapter Committee on Nominations and Leadership Identification (CNLI) presents the 2012 Chapter Election Slate.

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Sylvester Bowie

Vice President of Professional Development
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Susan Copple

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Betty Garcia
Bart Grossman

Delegate Assembly: At Large North 2
Terry Jones
Daniel McCarthy

Delegate Assembly: At Large South 1
Omar López
Natalia Salinas

Delegate Assembly: At Large South 2
Rita Ledesma
Mary Kay Oliveri

NASW-CA Chapter 2012 Election Candidates for Regional Positions

Regional Director: Region B
Chris Lum
Glenn Thomas

Regional Director: Region D
Heather Claibourn
Bruce Friedman

Regional Director: Region F
Cameron Galford

Regional Director: Region H
Sarah Cummings

Delegate Assembly: Region A
Stephen Bruner
Catharine Murray

Assistant Regional Director: Region A
Shelly Kalmer
Mark Thoma

Delegate Assembly: Region B
Diep Nguyen
Christine Tronge

Delegate Assembly: Region C
Sarah Brooks

Assistant Regional Director: Region C
Francisco Alvarado
Rachelle Jackson

Delegate Assembly: Region D
Timothy Brown
Laurie Pence

Delegate Assembly: Region E
Mika Nagamine
Tera Stefani

Assistant Regional Director: Region E
Bera (Ranvir) Sekhon

Delegate Assembly: Region F
Kimberly Cox
Julie Griffin

Delegate Assembly: Region G
Kimiko Kuroda

Assistant Regional Director: Region G
Deborah Allen

Delegate Assembly: Region H
Brandi Jordan

Delegate Assembly: Region I
Stephen Brown
Olga Sarabia

Assistant Regional Director: Region I
Vanessa Austin
Shammeer Dawson

Committee on Nominations & Leadership Identification: Region B
Peter Lee
Catherine Stone

Committee on Nominations & Leadership Identification: Region D
Catherine Connell
Shaaron Gilson

Committee on Nominations & Leadership Identification: Regions E & F
Martin Dare
Monica Wettengel

Committee on Nominations & Leadership Identification: Regions G, H & I
Peggy Polinsky
Sharon Chun Wetterau

VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

Online voting for the NASW 2012 Election will be available March 1, 2012 to April 30, 2012 (8pm Pacific time). Members eligible to vote must be in good standing as of February 15, 2012. Members with a valid email address will receive an email with a customized ballot link. Members wishing to vote by mail can also request a paper ballot by leaving a message at (916) 442-4565, ext. 14 or emailing a request to naswadmin@naswca.org.

In order for your vote to be counted, your ballot must be completed and submitted by April 30, 2012.

Thank you for exercising your right to vote. Support NASW's "Green" initiative, encourage your friends and colleagues to vote online.

MEMBERSHIP



VOLUNTEER LEADER SPOTLIGHT

Jennifer Tinsley, LCSW

NASW-CA Region E Director

My desire to become a social worker developed gradually throughout my life. Three things influenced my decision: my family's involvement in the profession, my undergraduate courses in a variety of social service areas, and interaction with social workers making positive changes in the community.

As a child, both of my parents taught child psychology and child development. Additionally, my sister has devoted her life to her work as director of a homeless shelter for women and children. Through my family experiences, I have been able to see how counseling, education and lifting others' spirits has a profound positive and energizing effect on others. As an adolescent, I knew that when I "grew up" I wanted to engage in a profession that helped others. However, I was not sure what direction my strong interest in helping others would take me.

After earning an undergraduate degree in sociology, I was still uncertain about how to move forward in my desire to pursue a career that was meaningful, purposed and effected change. I asked myself questions such as: "What professions would best allow me to make positive changes in the lives of others?" and "What professions were characterized by diversity in career experiences?" After exploring several possibilities, I spent time shadowing a social worker and this experience convinced me that social work would best offer me the opportunity to achieve my professional goals. I have never been disappointed.

Joining NASW and taking a leadership position has been a rewarding next step in my career. I am excited to have a role in our professions service organization and help other social worker's find satisfaction in our profession the way I have.

NASW LEGAL ISSUE OF THE MONTH

LDF: Forty Years of Legal Advocacy for Social Work

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Introduction

The year 2012 marks the fortieth anniversary of NASW's Legal Defense Fund (LDF) (initially titled as the Legal Defense Service or LDS). This Legal Issue of the Month article will review LDF's history of legal advocacy on behalf of the social work profession, noting various successful cases and amicus briefs filed for the Association and its chapters. Future articles in 2012 will highlight LDF's accomplishments in assisting members and chapters with legal expenses in cases and legal matters that meet LDF criteria for funding and in creating legal education products tailored for NASW members.

Background

NASW's Legal Defense Fund was created by the NASW Board of Directors in September 1972 as a trust with five appointed trustees. The LDF Trust Agreement, as well as minutes from related Board and Delegate Assembly meetings, provide a sense of the sociopolitical struggles facing the nation and the social work profession at the time, stating that: "Increasingly, workers practicing social work in accordance with the values and professional standards established and promulgated by their professional membership organization, are being challenged and interfered with in their service to clients, sometimes arrested and forced to defend themselves in court, and held up to public ridicule and scorn" (NASW, 1972). These conditions bear a familiar ring four decades later as social workers face similar legal challenges based on their involvement in child welfare, student rights, services to immigrants, support for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons, advocacy for health care reform and other controversial issues.

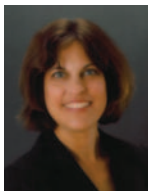
To view the entire article, please visit the national website, a member-only section, www.socialworkers.org/ldf/legal_issue/default.asp. Please email Brendan at membership@naswca.org or call (800) 538-2565, ext. 32 to have a copy emailed.

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POLITICAL ACTION

Government Relations Update

By Rebecca Gonzales, Director of Government Relations and Political Affairs



We have just reached the end of a busy month in the State Capitol where many two-year bills needed to pass out of their original house of origin or die for the year. We are also looking at new legislation to determine what bills we will support, oppose or lobby during Lobby Days. We are frequently asked if we can choose our Lobby Days bills earlier and, unfortunately, the answer is "No." Most bills are not introduced in the Legislature until late February, which leaves us a short time to analyze a thousand measures in time for Lobby Days.

One major two-year bill that survived the recent deadline was mentioned in the last edition of the *California News*. AB 154 (Beall) requires mental health care parity so that mental health conditions are treated and covered on par with medical illnesses. This bill passed out of the State Assembly and is now headed to the Senate. If this legislation is passed this year, it will be a big victory for mental health consumers and advocates. The previous governor vetoed this legislation several times and we are looking forward to putting this legislation before Governor Brown.

Another bill of interest that did not survive was SB 810 (Leno) to create a single payer health care system in California. This bill has been introduced numerous times in recent years. Besides votes against the basic concept of the bill, some members of the Legislature wanted to let national health care reform take hold.

Lastly, and sadly, I must report that our bill, AB 671 (Portantino), did not pass out of the Assembly Appropriations Committee. This bill would have required that supervisors in child welfare services have a MSW or a related master's degree with three years of experience. Although there were those that disagreed with the policy of our bill, it was rejected in the Appropriations Committee for political reasons that had nothing to do with our measure. We are currently reassessing what bills we will introduce next year but this bill may be in the mix.

State Budget

Since last month, there has not been a lot of action on the state budget. The Legislative Analyst Office (LAO) did release its analysis of the budget in February and expressed support for some of the governor's proposals and expressed concern about a few others. In addition, it estimated that the governor's proposed tax initiative would bring in less revenue than the governor projected, which could result in more cuts down the line if the LAO is correct and the taxes are implemented.

One proposal that the LAO expressed caution about was the cuts to CalWORKs and to subsidized child care. The LAO suggested that these cuts may be "too severe" and that the governor should think about alternatives. The Legislature will convene a series of budget subcommittee hearings in March, where possible changes to the governor's proposals will be discussed. We will be there as usual to represent the interest of low income Californians.

Legislative Lobby Days

I am looking forward to meeting new NASW members at our annual Legislative Lobby Days on April 15 and 16. Hopefully you have registered by now since the deadline was March 5. This two-day event educates students and professionals about important legislation affecting our clients and the social work profession but, more importantly, you will learn the skill of "advocacy." Remember, advocacy is in our *Code of Ethics* and social workers should practice advocacy "to improve social conditions and improve social justice." I hope to see you there!

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May CE Fair in Burlingame

DATES: May 18-19, 2012
LOCATION: Doubletree Hotel, 835 Airport Blvd., Burlingame, CA 94010
ROOM RESERVATIONS: Call the hotel at (800) 222-8733 and request the NASW rate - $109 per night.
PARKING: $6 per day / approximate
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Monday – April 30, 2012 *Registration fees increase $25 after this date.*

Human Sexuality (10 Hr)
1-day Pre-license Requirement
Course: #12-213
Instructor: R. Nizzardini, LCSW, JD
Date: Friday, May 18
Hours: 8:30am-7:30pm
Fees: Member $180
Non-member $210

Child Abuse (7 Hr)
1-day Pre-license Requirement
Course: #12-214
Instructor: J. Robbins, LCSW
Date: Saturday, May 19
Hours: 8:30am-4:30pm
Fees: Member $140
Non-member $170

Spousal/Partner Abuse (15 Hr)
2-day Pre-License Requirement
Course: #12-215
Instructor: J. Jackson, LCSW
Date: Fri. & Sat, May 18 & 19
Hours: 8:30am-5:00pm
Fees: Member $250
Non-member $280

Advanced Law & Ethics (6 Hr)
BBS Requirement for LCSW & LMFT
Course: #12-216
Instructor: P. Tsui, LCSW, PsyD
Date: Friday, May 18
Hours: 9:00am-4:00pm
Fees: Member $120
Non-member $150

Substance Dependency (15 Hr)
2-day Pre-license Requirement
Course: #12-217
Instructor: G. DiStefano, LCSW
Dates: Fri. & Sat., May 18 & 19
Hours: 8:30am-5:00pm
Fees: Member $250
Non-member $280

Clinical Supervision (15 Hr)
BBS Requirement for Supervising ASW
Course: #12-218
Instructor: M. Stern, LCSW
Dates: Fri. & Sat., May 18 & 19
Hours: 8:30am-5:00pm
Fees: Member $250
Non-member $280

June CE Fair in Burbank

DATES: June 21-23, 2012
LOCATION: Holiday Inn, 150 E. Angeleno Ave., Burbank, CA 91502
ROOM RESERVATIONS: Call the hotel at (818) 841-4770 and request the NASW rate - $118 per night.
PARKING/SHUTTLE: $5 approximate parking & free Burbank Airport shuttle
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Monday – June 4, 2012 *Registration fees increase $25 after this date.*

Human Sexuality (10 Hr)
1-day Pre-license Requirement
Course: #12-219
Instructor: M. Harwood, LCSW
Date: Thursday, June 21
Hours: 8:30am-7:30pm
Fees: Member $180
Non-member $210

Spousal/Partner Abuse (15 Hr)
2-day Pre-License Requirement
Course: #12-220
Instructor: M. Harwood, LCSW
Date: Fri. & Sat., June 22 & 23
Hours: 8:30am-5:00pm
Fees: Member $250
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Advanced Law & Ethics (6 Hr)
BBS Requirement for LCSW & LMFT
Course: #12-221
Instructor: M. W. Siegel, LCSW
Date: Friday, June 22
Hours: 9:00am-4:00pm
Fees: Member $120
Non-member $150

Child Abuse (7 Hr)
1-day Pre-license Requirement
Course: #12-222
Instructor: R. Liles, LCSW, DSW
Date: Friday, June 22
Hours: 8:30am-4:30pm
Fees: Member $140
Non-member $170

Clinical Supervision (15 Hr)
2-day Pre-license Requirement
Course: #12-223
Instructor: M. Jung, LCSW, DSW
Dates: Fri. & Sat., June 22 & 23
Hours: 8:30am-5:00pm
Fees: Member $250
Non-member $280

Substance Dependency (15 Hr)
2-day Pre-license Requirement
Course: #12-224
Instructor: G. DiStefano, LCSW
Dates: Fri. & Sat., June 22 & 23
Hours: 8:30am-5:00pm
Fees: Member $250
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Course Cancellation Policy: Classes which do not have sufficient registrants by the registration deadline may be canceled and registrants notified by phone.

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DRAFT 2013-2016 NASW-CA STRATEGIC PLAN

MISSION STATEMENT

To promote the quality, effectiveness and image of the social work profession and to promote social change and social justice in order to improve the well being of all residents of California.

PROCESS

The Program Committee, chaired by the First Vice President, is responsible for overseeing the development of the Chapter's Strategic Plan and its implementation. The Committee reviews the National Program Priorities set by the Delegate Assembly and receives input from Chapter committees, leaders and members. The ~~2005 Social Work Congress Imperatives have also been reviewed for this plan~~.

PROGRAM AREAS

The Strategic Plan encompasses the following program areas:

Professional Development
Membership and Organizational Services
Legislative and Political Action

Program Goals

Professional Development Program Goal

To assure a qualified and culturally competent social work labor force by expanding their skills and knowledge in social work practice. To assure high standards of social work practice by promoting professional and ethical social work practice.

Membership & Organizational Services Program Goal

To strengthen and unify the social work profession through recruitment and retention of members and by encouraging and facilitating participation of members in association activities including NASW leadership and meeting the needs and interests of regions, local units and individual members.

Legislative and Political Action Program Goal

To promote the influence of social work values in policy decision making through the increased participation and strengthened ability of social workers in legislative and political arenas and by social and professional action.

To read the rest of the Strategic Plan, please visit www.naswca.org/associations/7989/files/2013-2016-strategic-plan-draft.pdf

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Outcome 1: Social workers learn social work practice skills and knowledge for traditional and new roles in a continually changing environment.

Objectives:

a. Offer three classes per year reflecting new trends in practice skills and social work roles or settings.

b. Offer three classes per year in collaboration with NASW-CA councils, reflecting special interest areas.

c. Offer high quality skill and special interest courses that attendees rank at least 4 on scale of 1-5, where 5 is the highest.

d. Implement two strategies per year to more successfully market existing classes as professional development for BSWs, non licensed MSWs and DSWs/PhDs.

e. ~~Annually,~~ increase the number of ~~non-licensed and non-license applicant social workers who take~~ NASW CA course~~s~~ *registrants* as evidenced by *2011 attendance records.* ~~course attendance records with 2009 as the base year.~~

Outcome 2: Social workers learn to be more effective, culturally competent, and increase their knowledge about professional ethics and market value.

Objectives:

a. Offer three advanced "Law and Ethics" classes per year for experienced social workers or those who have taken prior classes.

~~b.~~ Offer three classes per year focused on improving social workers' cultural competence ~~and one class per year on marketing the value of social workers.~~

c. Offer high quality courses that participants rate at 4 on a scale of 1-5, with 5 being the highest.

d. Coordinate annually with a school in Latin America to offer a Spanish language and cultural program specifically for social workers ~~at least annually~~.

Outcome 3: Social workers have more continuing education content to choose from, and more avenues for obtaining the highest quality continuing education and professional development courses at competitive prices along with exemplary customer service.

Objectives:

a. Expand ~~the~~ online ~~and home study programs~~ content by 20% *using the level of content in 2011 as a base.* ~~per year over the base year 2009~~.

~~b.~~ *Expand online programs to ensure viability and sustainability, while maintaining* ~~Enhance the~~ technical sophistication *and meeting registrants' expectations.* ~~of the online continuing education Program by developing "interactive" learning software by January 2011.~~

c. Continue to *enhance* ~~develop~~ the online registration systems, *providing* ~~each year, giving~~ Internet users increased ability to *and ease in* register*ing/paying* ~~and pay~~ online for more chapter *conferences, courses* ~~classes~~ and events.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

In the November/December 2011 and the January 2012 issues of NASW *California News*, Executive Director Janlee Wong again played the political card. He used his executive director position to alienate conservative social workers and embrace liberal social workers. In his *Occupy What?* article (Vol. 38, No. 3), Mr. Wong, on behalf of California NASW, endorsed the "Occupy Wall Street" protests. He also stated that the Tea Party is not in line with social work values while implying that the Occupy people's ideas and actions are in line with social work values. Mr. Wong's characterization of the ideals of the Tea Party is too vague to be of value. Janlee Wong does not realize that comparing the "Occupy" people with the "Tea Party" people is not only irrelevant, but is like comparing attendees at a drunken rave party with guests who attend a formal White House dinner. His Occupy article is divisive and is aimed at creating feuding and posturing between liberal and conservative social workers. Apparently, he does not realize that conservative social workers can also be decent, highly professional and empathetic with the NASW Code of Ethics. It is my opinion that most conservative social workers cannot totally endorse the Occupy movement. Why should they? The aftermath of the Occupy movement's behavior left in its wake a history of inciting violence, provoking confrontations, harassing, intimidating and attacking police and city officials (i.e., Oakland), stopping traffic, vandalizing, destroying and taking over public buildings and parks. I cannot endorse this behavior. How can NASW endorse this behavior? It is fair to say that the Occupy Wall Street movement's initial goals were noble, but not their actions. Their ideals included protestations against the following: Wall Street's abuse of power, government bailouts, and a tax system that favors the wealthy, more transparency and regulations in campaigns, the creation of a democracy where the 99 percent can rule over the 1 percent, and the elimination of Washington's support of the wealthy over the poor. It is unfortunate the movement's behaviors were embarrassing, destructive, alienating and did not achieve its admirable goals.

Of course, conservative social workers have different political views than liberal social workers. Liberal social workers probably support higher taxes on the rich, more government spending, income redistribution, anti-religious legislation, a pro-abortion stance, support of socialized medicine and illegal immigration as well as amnesty. Conservatives have a different take. Conservatives want transparency in government and advocate for liberty, justice and righteous with respect to conformity to law and moral rights.

To read the rest of the letter, written by Dick Richards, PhD, LCSW, MFT, ACSW, please visit www.naswca.org/associations/7989/files/letter_to_editor.pdf.

Dear Editor:

In his article *Occupy What?* Executive Director Wong calls upon liberal and conservative movements to seek commonality in political agendas, where we might see none. I think it is important to recognize that, while still perplexing to me, there is a similar polarization of political perspectives within the social work profession. I would mirror Executive Director Wong's interest in collaborating the liberal and conservative agenda in order to better serve our consumers, rather than our personal agendas. Further, as a social worker, I encourage NASW California's continued support of the Occupy Movement, not the few incidences of violence that have occurred in response to political tensions. Rather than discounting the few protesters who approach the waters of political change more egregiously, we should understand these behaviors as a human reaction to an inherent sense of disempowerment. The uncontrolled actions of a few should not distract from the intentions of the whole. Equality and justice are at the forefront of social work values and ethics, and as consumer advocates NASW must support the efforts of oppressed populations as they attempt to advocate for themselves.

Sincerely,
Jaime Zehner, MSW Intern
NASW-CA



2011 Spanish Immersion Session

Visit the beautiful and safe mountain villages near the Pacific coast of Mexico.

Learn or improve your Spanish while helping underprivileged students further their education.

For details, visit www.projectamigo.org/pa_index-2.html.

Project Amigo is a successful nonprofit dedicated to expanding and improving children's educational opportunities. The fees for the immersion program support the student-based services.

For information about the project and services provided, visit www.projectamigo.org.

OPINION

How Does the IRS Ruling 72-124 Affect CCRC Residents with Certain Financial Arrangements and Investments? Can They Be Excluded from Protections the Ruling Appears to Offer?



By Lillian L. Hyatt, MSW, a resident of a CCRC and AARP Policy Specialist on CCRCs

How does the IRS ruling 72-124 affect CCRC residents with certain financial arrangements and investments? Can they be excluded from the protections offered in the ruling? The answer is yes they can. The following information is routinely given out to CCRC residents seeking the refuge they thought they had when they are being induced to enter a CCRC. They are always told by marketing staff, "If you run out of money, we will support you for your lifetime!"

Residents can be excluded if they do not meet the following guidelines outlined in a letter they may receive from the executive director of their CCRC. Management puts it this way: "We generally ask for a meeting once your remaining assets total $60,000." If a resident has a portion of their assets in annuitized investments in excess of $60,000 they are automatically excluded. (Annuitization is money invested at a fixed rate of interest for your entire lifetime.) Cash cannot be accessed, but the income is secure for your entire lifetime. If that exceeds the $60,000 as all you can have after you have spent down all of your assets available to qualify, you can be excluded because you still have the income from the annuitized money.

To view the entire article, please visit www.naswca.org/associations/7989/files/hyatt0312.pdf. To request a printed copy of this article, please contact (800) 538-2565, ext. 42. California News *columnist Lillian Hyatt is an AARP California policy advisor. A policy advisor reviews legislation, regulations and other proposals to promote official AARP policy updated annually and approved by its board of directors. Professor Hyatt can be seen at www.youtube.com. Search for Lillian Hyatt.*

Gender Fairness—An American Value for Economic Growth: Analysis of 2012 President's Address

By Janaki Santhiveeran, PhD

Gender fairness was addressed by President Obama twice in his 2012 State of the Union address. Mentioning gender unfairness shows his promise to focus on this area probably during his next term or to spark debate on this issue among various constituents. President Obama stated, "…an economy built to last is one where we encourage the talent and ingenuity of every person in this country. That means women should earn equal pay for equal work. It means we should support everyone who's willing to work."

Addressing gender inequality is critical to building sustainable growth. There are several strategies to help women earn equal pay. Let us take his example about car manufacturers in the U.S. Timely interventions averted big failure and these manufacturers became successful within two to three years.

Why doesn't President Obama follow similar strategies to curb gender inequality at public offices, schools and corporations? Although gender unfairness is growing in leaps and bounds with a growing number of women in the workforce, interventions are needed to break the cycle of gender differences in pay by focusing on innovative programs and policies at both public and private sectors through self-auditing, public awareness, tax incentives and much more.

To view the rest of the article, please visit www.naswca.org/associations/7989/files/gender_fairness.pdf. Janaki Santhiveeran, PhD, is a professor at the School of Social Work, California State University, Long Beach.

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Meet NASW-CA Intern Alysa Harless



My name is Alysa Harless and I am a second year MSW student at USC in the Virtual Academic Center. I did my undergrad at Sonoma State and had an opportunity to both study abroad in South Africa and to travel around mediterranean Europe. I love being a Trojan and I love living in Sacramento. I believe that the core elements I learn at NASW will help me in any theory and practice as there should be a good understanding of how both federal and state legislation influence, not only our agencies and work, but our clients as well. I know I can make a difference as a social worker as I have been advocating for social justice issues (veteran affairs, rights for disabled persons) all of my life. Fight on!

NPN Mini-Conference

Join social work students and new professionals (recent graduates) for the New Professionals Network Mini-Conference "Expanding Our Horizons" event on Saturday, April 28, 2012 from 9am to 1:30pm at UCLA. There will be a keynote address by NASW-CA Executive Director Janlee Wong and workshops geared toward advancing and expanding your career in social work. For details, visit www.naswca.org and choose the NPN link under "Upcoming Events" in the right-hand column. There is a $5 registration fee to attend and a separate $11 charge for parking. Lunch will be provided. RSVP required. For information, call (323) 363-1133 or e-mail membership@naswca.org.

DISCOVER YOUR FUTURE



Social Work Job Fair 2012

Friday, April 20th

9:30am-12:30pm

Carson Center

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AROUND THE STATE



NASW-CA Director of Government Relations and Political Affairs Rebecca Gonzales with U.S. Senator Al Franken at the state Democratic Convention on February 11, 2012 in San Diego. U.S. Senator Al Franken is from Minnesota and was previously a comedian and comedy writer for *Saturday Night Live*.



Keynote speaker Sujatha Baliga at the UC Berkeley Social Justice Symposium in Berkeley on February 11, 2012.



Left to right: Sabrina Vella, Ashley Wolfe and Alysa Harless at the UC Berkeley Social Justice Symposium in Berkeley on February 11, 2012.



NASW-CA Executive Director Janlee Wong and Acting Dean Sam Davis at the UC Berkeley Social Justice Symposium.

IN MEMORIAM

Madeline Mark, LCSW



By Judith M. Harris, LCSW NASW SFVLU Co-Chair

Madeline Mark, LCSW, of Pasadena, Calif., beloved colleague and friend of many social workers in NASW Region I and of social workers throughout Southern California and nationally, passed away on February 1, 2012. She died of an illness that took its course swiftly and unexpectedly. Madeline was the quintessential social worker—always warm, kind, open, unassuming, empathic, nonjudgmental, supportive, highly intelligent and insightful, with a great sense of optimism. She practiced adhering to the highest of ethical and professional standards. Personally, she had a great sense of wit, charm and humor. She was able to gently and kindly infuse her sense of humor into her work as a clinical social worker. Madeline practiced in private practice in Pasadena working with individuals, couples, families—children, adolescents and adults. She also had a consulting and training company called "Mark Resource Development," through which she worked in the arena of human resource development for companies.

Madeline was integrally involved in the Southern California social work community for many years. Both locally and around the globe, she ran workshops and participated in numerous volunteer activities such as conducting "Rising Star" leadership workshops for teens, and counseling children of "911" in the New York area through the organization, "Tuesday's Child." A graduate of the University of California, Berkeley and the Columbia University Graduate School of Social Work, Madeline was involved not only professionally but personally with many family members and friends in the Pasadena community and throughout the country. She devoted herself to providing service to the Pasadena Jewish Temple and Center, serving and chairing committees over the years on the board of directors. She leaves her husband, Brian Mark, her daughter and son-in-law, Rachael (Mark) and Elliott Feigenbaum of Riverdale, New York, and her son, David Mark of the Washington, D.C. area, as well as many bereft family members, friends and colleagues.

The family has asked that donations be given in memoriam to Pasadena Jewish Temple and Center, 1434 N. Altadena Drive, Pasadena, Calif. 91107-1433 or to Union Station Homeless Services, 825 E. Orange Grove Boulevard, Pasadena, Calif. 91104. The family can be contacted through Madeline's husband, Brian Mark at (626) 795-2963 or (626) 840-7550. ◉

COUNCILS

Social Action/Social Justice Council Report

By Natalia Salinas, SASJ Council Chair

"An individual has not started living until he can rise above the narrow confines of his individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity."

—Martin Luther King, Jr.

The NASW-CA SASJ Council southern contingent will begin meeting monthly. Please sign on to our listserv at socialactioncouncil-subscribe@yahoogroups.com to receive future meeting notices or to post questions. We recently met to discuss the historic role of social workers in labor movements and how this relates to the Occupy movement and the upcoming May Day 2012 General Strike to be held May 1st. A call is being made to not go to work or school this day.

Occupy May 1st statement: We are immigrant communities, organized and unorganized labor, the unemployed, prisoners, unwaged workers, and students, all uniting to resist oppression and build our power as a single working class and to show that power on May 1. We are consciously struggling to defeat the racism, sexism, homophobia and all the oppressions that divide us so that we can truly say "we are the 99 percent!" The top one percent have incomes exceeding $1.5 million—and their wealth continues to grow. ◉

WOMEN'S COUNCIL

Ethics Alive and Well in LA

By Marilyn Montenegro



Front row (left to right): Marlene Rotblatt, Brenda Wiewel, Back row (left to right): Monica Stel, Beth Mirenda, Marilyn Montenegro, Kathryn Nagy, Carrie Mounier and Debbie Murad.

Participants in the February 3, 2012 Women's Council Law and Ethics workshop found it well organized, informative and thought provoking. The audience of approximately 120 grappled with issues of client self-determination, ethical social work practice and the decision making processes of both consumer and provider. The workshop focused on self-determination in the context of trauma and included information about the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) study, which was new to many of the participants.

The workshop was designed as a consciousness-raising experience sharing dilemmas faced by social workers. Presenters included Deena Chaffin, consumer; Maria Escamilla Mojarro, supervising children's social worker/team decision making meeting facilitator, LA County DCFS; Elise Gibney, clinical psychologist/supervisor, Children's Hospital LA, Division of Adolescent Medicine; Beth Merenda, clinical social worker, Hathaway-Sycamores Child and Family Services; Marilyn Montenegro, coordinator, Women's Council Prison Project; Carrie Mounier, clinical social worker, Children's Hospital LA, Division of Adolescent Medicine; Debbie Murad, director, Solutions Counseling Services; Katherine Nagy, clinical social worker, Los Angeles Centers for Alcohol and Drug Abuse; Maritza Rosales, consumer; Monica Stel, executive director, Harbour Area Halfway Houses; and Brenda Wiewel, executive director, Los Angeles Centers for Alcohol and Drug Abuse.

Group discussion examined ethical and legal issues in the context of limited options and the value of collective decision making. Information about the May 1 General Strike (an Occupy Movement event) and NASW membership was available. ◉

The Women's Council meets bimonthly in the greater Los Angeles area. For more information, please email mujerista@All2easy.net.

PRACTICE PERSPECTIVE

Continued from page 1

Adolescent Psychiatry's (2010) Facts for Families: Teen Suicide fact sheet states: A teenager planning to commit suicide may also:

- Complain of being a bad person or feeling rotten inside.
- Give verbal hints with statements such as: "I won't be a problem for you much longer," "Nothing matters," "It's no use," and "I won't see you again."
- Put his or her affairs in order, for example, give away favorite possessions, clean his or her room, throw away important belongings, etc.
- Become suddenly cheerful after a period of depression.
- Have signs of psychosis (hallucinations or bizarre thoughts).

How Social Workers Can Help

Gain a comprehensive understanding of adolescent depression and suicidal ideation/risk. Many social workers learn about these issues within their formal education and through clinical training. As many of the warning signs can also be a normal part of growing up, it is important for social workers to understand the difference. The lives of adolescents and dynamics pertaining to adolescent depression and suicide are continually evolving. Social workers should stay current with growing trends and understand their influences with regard to adolescents.

An example of a shift that has impacted adolescent dynamics regards technology and bullying behaviors. With the progression of technology, bullying often occurs online or through mobile phones. Due to this shift in communication, bullying no longer ends when the school day ends. It can continue through the night, on weekends and during summer breaks (Issurdatt, 2010).

Another dynamic that has shifted over the past decade is the increase in awareness, services and support for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) youth. These services have opened communication regarding sexuality. While some youth feel supported by these efforts, others may feel threatened by them and act out towards others. There are many treatment approaches implemented in managing depression and suicide risk such as psychiatric hospitalization, no harm contracts, mental health therapy, etc. As the circumstances that influence adolescent well-being evolve, social workers should know how various approaches work and the benefits and risks of implementation. Every suicide warning sign should be taken seriously (NASW 2009). ◉

For the remaining content of this five-page (PDF) document, which includes more information regarding How Can Social Workers Help, Resources, and References, visit http://socialworkers.org/practice/children/default.asp.This Practice Perspective can be accessed by NASW members by logging in with their user name and password. For questions about accessing this or other NASW documents, email Brendan at membership@naswca.org.

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REGION REPORTS



REGION A

San Francisco, Marin, Sonoma, Mendocino, Lake, Humboldt, Del Norte

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Region A Report

By Mary Kyle, LCSW, Region A Director

Region A invites all members, family and friends to come and honor the dedicated work that we do individually, collectively and as an association! Each social worker has contributed towards the betterment of people's lives, fought for justice, equality and did so with humility, kindness and determination. We provide social service with the hopes to make a difference in this world. We will be celebrating you and recognizing these three dedicated women for their contributions to social work: Social Worker of the Year—Laila Hinkle, LCSW; Lifetime Achievement— MaryAnn Swanson, LCSW; and Public Citizen of the Year—Rita Widergren, PRN. The event is on March 19 at Il Davide, 901 A Street, San Rafael, Calif. from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. There will be appetizers and refreshments! Easy parking. The cost is $10. Please register online at www.naswca.org/cde.cfm?event=377888. Any questions, emailMary Kyle at marykyle53@yahoo.com.

San Francisco Unit Report

By Mark Thoma

The San Francisco unit hosted a Social Work Month celebration, networking and CEU event on March 8 at AIDS Health Project. Kathleen Adams, LCSW, presented a training session on motivational interviewing. Thank you to Martha Stein for her help in getting a San Francisco Proclamation in honor of Social Work Month. The evening included a raffle for social work gifts. Please save the date for our next networking and CEU event "Life Coaching: What Is It and Implications for Social Work" on Thursday, June 14, 2012 from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. 1.5 CEUs and location TBD. To be added to our email list, contact Mark Thoma at thoma_mark@yahoo.com. See you in June!

Sonoma Unit Report

By Keri Harris, MSW

Happy Social Work Month! Our CEU event held January 26 entitled "Eating Disorders: The Development of, The Recovery Journey and the Role and Necessity of the Treatment Team" was a huge success! We welcomed nutrition counselor Veronica Benjamin, MPH, RD, who presented an overview of eating disorders including definitions, etiologies, treatment and treatment outcomes, body image, the media and the influence of culture on women. Thank you to all for your attendance. For our February 23 CEU event "Managing Your Professional Image and Boundaries in an Era of Technology," we welcomed NASW-CA Executive Director Janlee Wong, MSW. Mr. Wong has served as the executive director since 1995 and has assisted thousands of social workers in interpreting and applying the ethical standards detailed in the NASW *Code of Ethics* to professional practice. Discussion topics included complex ethical issues involving electronic communications, risk management and ethical decisions and variations in professional use of electronic communications. Also present was California State Assembly member Mariko Yamada. Ms. Yamada represents California's 8th District and currently chairs the Assembly Aging and Long-Term Care Committee, a position that reflects her professional background as a social worker and her longtime work advocating for seniors and persons with disabilities. A big thank you to all for a successful February event! We are excited to be a part of the Region A celebration of Social Work Month in March. Stay tuned for more information.

Please also join us for on April 20 for a three-hour CEU training entitled "Critical Incident Stress Debriefing" presented by Christine B. Kleinpeter, MSW, PsyD, professor at the CSULB School of Social Work. Objectives include learning how to use stress management techniques, how to conduct a critical incident stress debriefing group, the effectiveness of critical incident stress debriefing groups, and the physical, cognitive, emotional and behavioral signs of stress. The training will take place at Sonoma State University in Salazar Hall, Suite 2022 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm. Please RSVP to NASWSonomaUnit@gmail.com. Space is limited. If you would like to be included on the NASW Sonoma unit email list, please email your contact information to NASWSonomaUnit@gmail.com.

REGION B

San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo

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Region B Report

By Glenn Thomas, Region B Director

The San Mateo unit will soon celebrate Social Worker of the Year and present other awards. Support your local unit and see social workers receive awards for outstanding social work in San Mateo County. Food and dessert will be provided along with a free CEU presentation.

The exact date, time and location of the San Mateo event will be published in a future posting at www.naswca.org/calendar.cfm.

We are also very pleased that Social Workers in the Library has received national and global recognition. The November/December 2011 issue of the journal *Public Libraries* presented a nine-page article on "Public Libraries and the Homeless." The article quoted Deborah Estreicher, reference librarian; Peter Lee, acting director of the School of Social Work at San Jose State University (SJSU); and his graduate student, Kristine Chavez; as well as Cyndy and Glenn Thomas of the NASW California chapter.

Additionally, last November, Cyndy Thomas LCSW, and Glenn Thomas Region B director, both presented along with Peter Lee from the School of Social Work, SJSU, and Deborah Estreicher from San Jose's King Library at the Library 2.011 Worldwide Virtual Conference. Attendees included participants from the United States, Mongolia, Europe, Indonesia, Vietnam and around the world.

San Luis Obispo Unit Report

By Ly-Lan Lofgren, LCSW

Celebrate Social Work Month in San Luis Obispo. We are going to have our celebration on March 22 from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. Ly-Lan Lofgren is our Social Worker of the Year. We will be meeting at the Creekside Mobile Home Clubhouse at 3960 S. Higuera St. in San Luis Obispo. You are

REGION REPORTS

invited to dinner, music and fine company. Our unit will also be presenting a proclamation to our county's Board of Supervisors on March 20. Please stay in touch for updates. We would like to have social workers from every agency possible. Please join our Facebook page NASW San Luis Obispo County for updates. Our North County section is meeting every two weeks for lunch and gaining momentum. For more information, contact LyLanMVLofgren@gmail.com.

REGION C

Alameda, Contra Costa, Napa, Solano

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REGION D

Central Valley: Chico, Kern, Fresno, Merced, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Stanislaus; Sierra Foothills: Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Mariposa, Tuolumne

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Chico Unit Report

By Marci Oller

In the hot July heat of Redding, Calif., Northern Gateway Region D gathered for a business meeting that would address National Social Work 2012. What if we educated ourselves, our colleagues and our community about the hidden quiet individuals and groups that serve Shasta County? And what if we built relationships by going to the place of service and having face-to-face cups of coffee with one of the quiet workers or the people served? And what if we looked in unexpected places for the threads of social work core values?

With the goal of discovering and educating Shasta County of life-changing work, Northern Gateway NASW members finalized nominations by highlighting groups that served families, veterans, recovery or volunteer work. From November to March, members visited sites, attended potlucks and other events to build relationships with the following groups: Pit River Behavioral Health's Elder Women's Talking Circle, a cultural bridge builder in the recovery field. Shasta Lake Alternative School serves families by using a community garden so that the consumer—the family, may also be the provider. Reflections Counseling and Family Services offers exponential volunteerism with pro-bono licensed clinicians, practicum/trainees, associates/interns and a support team. The Redding Outpatient Clinic, part of the Veterans' Administration Northern California Health System, serves the whole person by offering a full range of medical and ancillary services. Do you want to know the outcome of the relationship building process? Join Northern Gateway NASW for the annual social work dinner on March 15 at 6pm at Marie Callenders in Redding. RSVP Susan Thompson, LCSW, unit president, at sthompsonlcsw@att.net or (530) 941-3778.

Region D's Chico Unit is also looking forward to celebrating Social Work Month with community action and recognition. Our awards dinner will be held at Turandot Restaurant at 6pm in Chico on Wednesday, March 28, where we will be honoring two Social Workers of the Year. Hope to see you there.

REGION E

San Diego, Imperial

CONTACTS

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Regional Alternative Director
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Region E Report

By Jennifer Tinsley, Region E Director

March is Social Work Month and to go with this year's theme of "Social Work Matters," Region E will be hosting an awards dinner. Awards will be given in the following six categories: Lifetime Achievement, Social Worker of the Year, Public Citizen of the Year, Community Organization Hero of the Year, Social Work Educator and/or Field Instructor of the Year, and "Up and Coming" Student of Year. This year's Social Work Awards Dinner will be on March 23 at Phil's BBQ Event Center (3750 Sports Arena Blvd, San Diego, Calif., 92110). Doors will open at 5:30pm. Tickets for this event will go on sale, February 15 through March 14. Tickets will be $15 for NASW members and $20 for all others. Ticket prices include dinner, dessert and a nonalcoholic drink. To purchase tickets and get information, please go to www.naswca.org/calendar.cfm. Please contact Jennifer at jtinsley76@gmail.com for any questions.

REGION F

San Bernardino/Riverside, Orange County, Palm Desert

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Inland Empire Unit Chair
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Palm Springs/Desert Cities Unit

By Katrina Bullard, MSW

Please join us for a special event with inspiring speakers, free CEU, food, door prizes and networking. Healing the Helper, an evening dedicated to self-care in celebration of National Social Work Month, will be held Tuesday, March 20 from 6pm to 8pm at the Annenberg Center for Health Sciences located on the campus of Eisenhower Medical Center, 39000 Bob Hope Drive in Rancho Mirage. Social workers provide supportive services to the people of our community on a daily basis. Engaging in self-care is critical to combating compassion fatigue and burnout, yet many of us find it difficult to take this needed time. Here's your chance to be kind to yourself and learn some helpful strategies. Come and let the healing begin! For more information, please contact unit chair, Peter Shorts, MSW, at (760) 902-4961 or pcs.socialwork@yahoo.com or John Forand, LCSW, Region F alternate director, at (760) 835-9849 or jforand@dc.rr.com. Our next regular monthly meeting will be held at the Mirage Inn in Rancho Mirage on Thursday, April 5 from 6pm to 7:30 pm.

Orange County Unit Report

By Leslie Wind

Please join the Orange County Unit on March 21 from 6pm to 8:30pm to celebrate Social Work Month. Congratulate our Social Worker of the Year and learn about a great way to expand practice. Arianna Jeret will present "Expanding Social Work Practice Options: Basics of Mediation." Location: 2300 Michelson Drive, Irvine, Calif., 92612. Refreshments and free parking and free CEUs. Please RSVP to wind@usc.edu.

REGION REPORTS

REGION G

San Fernando Valley, Ventura County, Antelope Valley, Santa Barbara County

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San Fernando Valley Unit Report

By Judith M. Harris, LCSW, SFVLU Co-Chair

Greetings social workers! The San Fernando Valley Unit planned our Social Work Month/Social Work Awards event and selected our honorees at a successful planning meeting on February 12! SFVLU was joined by guest Cynthia Cooper, program chair of SFV Employee Assistance Professionals Association to work jointly with us on planning a June 2012 workshop on social media. More news to come about this!

We are honored that NASW-CA Executive Director Janlee Wong, MSW, will be the keynote speaker at our awards event. This year's award recipients are as follows: Joni Diamond, LCSW, Social Worker of the Year Award; Professor Jean Daniels, MPH, DSW, Lifetime Achievement Award; Nancy Menjivar, CSUN 2012 MSW Candidate, Student of the Year Award. At the event, SFVLU will acknowledge CSUN MSW students for whom the unit provides funds to attend Lobby Days. SFVLU will also confer awards upon our honorees at a celebration reception on Sunday March 11 from 2pm to 5pm at the Beverly Garland Hotel, located at 4222 Vineland Avenue, North Hollywood/Studio City, Calif., 91602. There will be a plentiful assortment of tea sandwiches, nibbles, desserts and nonalcoholic drinks. The cost is $12 for members and guests; $6 for students and retirees. There is a $4 per vehicle parking fee. Register online by clicking on www.naswca.org/cde.cfm?event=378454. There will be registration at the door. Please tell friends and colleagues about this wonderful event and come to celebrate with us! For more information, contact either co-chair Judith M. Harris, LCSW, at jmharrislcsw@sbcglobal.net or (818) 986-7762 or Rina Levi Shoyer, LCSW, at anirlevi@gmail.com or (818) 523-1310.

REGION H

West Los Angeles and Beach Cities

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Region H Report

By Tracy Greene Mintz, LCSW

Celebrate Social Work Month Region H style! This year, we will be having one of our legendary networking parties as we present our regional awards to Social Worker of the Year and Public Citizen of the Year. It this will be held Thursday, March 29 from 6:45pm to 9:30pm at the Wheel of Well Being in West Los Angeles (at 1575 Westwood Blvd). Suggested donation is $5/member, $10/nonmember. Please RSVP online at www.naswca.org (calendar), at regionhnasw@gmail.com or (310) 386-5576.

REGION I

San Gabriel Valley, East LA, and South Bay – Long Beach

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Long Beach/South Unit Chair
Dr. Brian Lam
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Visit http://www.naswca.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=125

Region Report

By Paul McDonough, LCSW, Region I Director

Happy Social Work Month! Region I has been having some wonderful events. In January, we teamed with Region H and CSUDH to bring you "Social Work Across the Lifespan." Social work appreciation came a month early with 7 HIV/AIDs CEUs for only $15. Soon we will be teaming with the New Professionals Network, Region H and UCLA for a mini-conference. Want to get involved? Want to know what's going on? Here's how: join the brand new NASW California Region I Facebook group, contact our membership coordinator Brendan at membership@naswca.org and ask to receive Cal Swift emails. Also email Paul at paultmcdonough@gmail.com if you would like to help put together an event. Want to support your fellow professional social workers? Consider running for assistant director of Region I. Visit the NASW California website for more information. Hope to see you all at Lobby Days!

Do you live or work in the north part of our region? Interested in organizing a meeting or social event for local members? Please email paultmcdonough@gmail.com.

CLASSIFIEDS

CEUs

Southern California Society for Clinical Hypnosis CEU Workshops. Intermediate Training: March 23-25, 2012; Mind-Body Disorders and Anxiety: Psychodynamic & Buddhist Approach, May 6; Southern California. Monthly Meeting. Pacific Palisades. www.scsch.camp7.org. (888) 327-2724.

SUPPORT

Are you raising a relative's child? Don't know where to look for support? Call 1-800-KIN-0047 (1-800-546-0047), California Kinship Navigator Program. Kinship Navigators offer Referrals, Resources and Support.



Are You Retiring?

Tips for Closing Your Private Practice

Please visit the following link http://careers.socialworkers.org/documents/RetiringaPrivatePractice.pdf

Receive Legal and Ethical Updates from NASW

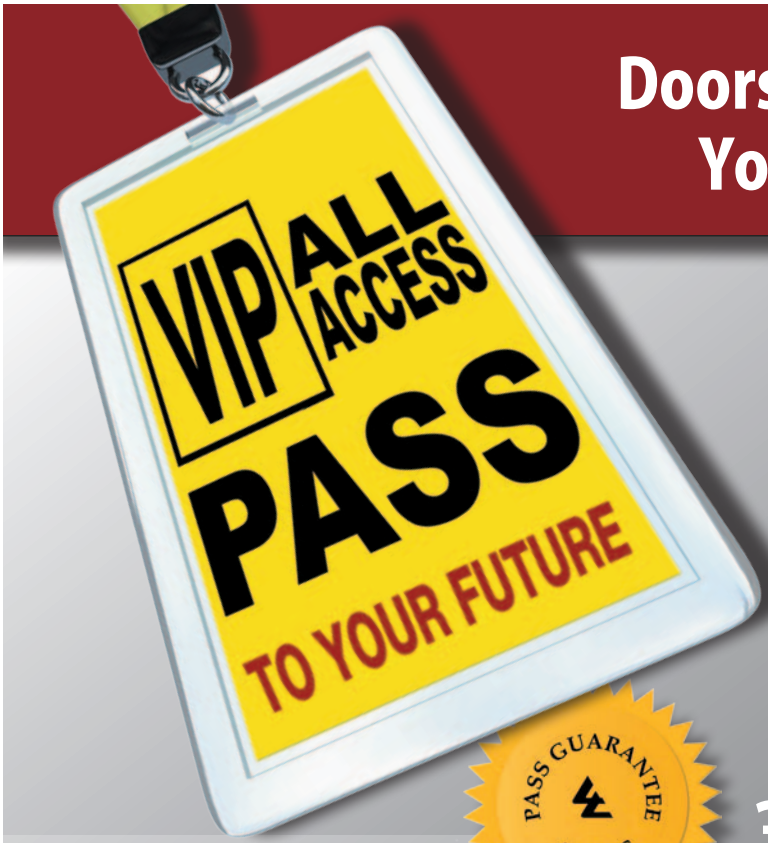
Members can receive regular updates on ethics and legal issues by visiting the NASW Social Work Ethics and Law Institute on Facebook and "liking" the site at www.facebook.com/socialworkethicslaw.


You know he smokes. What you may not know is how badly he wants to quit.
People with serious mental illness die up to 25 years earlier, often from tobacco-related disease. Their desire to quit is stronger than you may think. Talk to them about it. For more help, refer them to 1-800-NO-BUTTS. And visit info.nobutts.org/sw2 for free training, resources, and patient materials.
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In response to **National Professional Social Work** month and the "Social Work Matters" campaign, AATBS is offering all of our social work packages at special pricing for the month of March.

LCSW Platinum Package
Regular Price: ~~$995~~| **Special: $697**

LCSW Gold Package
Regular Price: ~~$575~~ | **Special: $403**

Written or CVE Study Package
Regular Price: ~~$325~~ | **Special: $228**

Written or CVE Combo Package
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Visit **www.aatbs.com** to learn about the materials available in each study package.

"I want to take this opportunity to thank you for helping me to pass my exam. Your presentation material was clear and easy to understand. I am very grateful. I wish you continued success."

Respectfully,
Kenneth Griffin

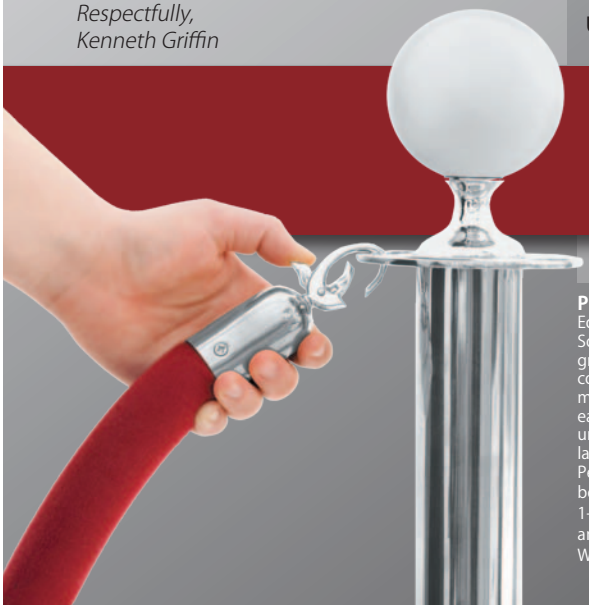
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Peter Schreiner, LCSW is the Educational Director of AATBS' Social Work Program. Peter's greatest asset is his ability to communicate and explain the most difficult concepts in easy-to-understand language. Peter teaches both the Live 1-Day Written and CVE Workshops.



Melauree Shaw, Ph.D. has over ten years of clinical experience working with children, adolescents, adults, couples and families in both in-patient and out-patient milieus. Melauree teaches the Online Theories Workshop.



Kaynor Heineck, M.S. is a Licensed Mental Health Professional and examination preparation expert in Social Work licensing. She has published numerous articles on exam preparation. Kaynor teaches the Online Small Group Workshop.

