

# SOCIAL WORK VOICE

Massachusetts Chapter

**Joy DeGruy, PhD, MSW**, author of *Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome: America's Legacy of Enduring Injury and Healing*, will be the keynote speaker at Symposium 2021, which begins on April 15th



CHICAGO – KENT

ILLINOIS INSTITUTE  
OF  
TECHNOLOGY

**The Definition of  
Social Work Matters**

PAGE 3

**Symposium 2021:  
Workshops and Registration**

PAGE 13

**Inside our 2020  
Annual Report**

PAGE 21

# SOCIAL WORK VOICE

Formerly called “FOCUS”

Jan./Feb. 2020 • Vol. 4, No. 1

A publication of the National Association of Social Workers–Massachusetts Chapter (NASW-MA). Published six times per year.

**Design & Production**  
David Gerratt  
NonprofitDesign.com

**President**  
Sarah Coughlin, LICSW, LADC-1

## CHAPTER STAFF

**Executive Director**  
Rebekah Gewirtz, MPA  
rgewirtz.naswma@socialworkers.org

**Director of Therapy Matcher and Director of Clinical Practice**  
Barbara Burka, LICSW  
bburka.naswma@socialworkers.org  
info@therapymatcher.org

**Director of Communications & Strategic Initiatives**  
Jamie Klufts, MPH  
jklufts.naswma@socialworkers.org

**Operations Manager**  
Michael LaBerge, MSM  
mlaberge.naswma@socialworkers.org

**Administrative Assistant/CE Approval Program Coordinator**  
Adam Linn  
alinn.naswma@socialworkers.org

**Program Coordinator**  
Crisbelly Medina Adames, MBA  
cmadames.naswma@socialworkers.org

**Membership and Advocacy Manager**  
Noël Schutz, LCSW  
nschutz.naswma@socialworkers.org

## REGIONAL COORDINATORS

**Central Region** | Jessica O'Neill, MSW  
jessicaoneill9@gmail.com

**Southeast Region** | Melissa B. Dawson, LICSW  
melissabdawson@comcast.net

**Northeast Region** | Beth Morrison, LCSW  
bethoshaffer@hotmail.com

**Pioneer Valley and Berkshire Regions** | Jeff Schrenzel, PhD  
jschrenz@wne.edu

**Advertising**  
Visit [www.naswma.org/advertising](http://www.naswma.org/advertising) for more information or contact Jamie Klufts, Director of Communications & Strategic Initiatives: [jklufts.naswma@socialworkers.org](mailto:jklufts.naswma@socialworkers.org)

**Contact Information**  
11 Beacon Street, Suite 510, Boston, MA 02108  
Phone: 617-227-9635 • Fax: 617-227-9877

[chapter.naswma@socialworkers.org](mailto:chapter.naswma@socialworkers.org)  
[www.naswma.org](http://www.naswma.org)

**Facebook:** NASW–MA Chapter  
**Twitter:** @NASWMA  
**LinkedIn:** NASW Massachusetts Chapter  
**Instagram:** @masocialworkers



PAGE 5



PAGE 21



PAGE 23

## FEATURES

13 Symposium Workshops and Registration

21 NASW-MA's 2020 Annual Report

## DEPARTMENTS

3 Executive Director's Message  
The Definition of Social Work Matters  
REBEKAH GEWIRTZ

4 The Buzz

5 Member Spotlight: Barbara Lomax

6 On the Hill  
A New Dawn for Social Justice: Inspiration from  
Amanda Gorman for the Work Ahead  
JAMIE KLUFTS

8 Clinical Practice Today  
State Lines, Boundaries, and Ethics  
KATE ROBINSON

9 Managed Care News: What Clinicians Need to Know Right Now  
BARBARA BURKA

12 Regional Calendar

25 Career Services  
New Technology Skills for a New Job in the New Year  
ELYSE PIPITONE

26 Classified Ads



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



**Rebekah Gewirtz, MPA**  
Executive Director

In late 2019, I received my first email in what would become a growing tide of messages from social workers in distress. Mandy\* had been trying to sit for the LICSW exam but had been repeatedly denied the opportunity to do so even though she had acquired all 3500 clinical hours she needed under the supervision of an LICSW. She was an LCSW in good standing, with her MSW degree from an accredited institution. The problem, according to the licensing board, wasn't that. It was that Mandy practiced in a hospital so she, therefore, was not engaging in "clinical social work." The next day I received a message from another social worker, this one working at the Department of Children and Families. She, too, had her MSW and had acquired the needed 3500 clinical hours to sit for the LICSW exam but was also being denied the opportunity to sit for the test, on the same grounds.

Over the course of the next few weeks our Director of Clinical Practice and other members of our staff heard from social workers all over the state, on social media and via email, with heartbreaking stories about hours logged in what they understood to be acceptable clinical hours, only to be denied the chance to sit for the test.

It is situations like this that give those of us with a vested interest in the profession, and those who it serves, the most frustration. As we began our intensive lobbying and advocacy to undo the damage and change the licensing board's erroneous interpretation, we uncovered many unfounded conceptions about the profession. There

# The Definition of Social Work Matters

was a lack of understanding by some of the historic nature of the social work profession in communities and its roots outside of traditional psychotherapy. There was misunderstanding about its history in the field of case management, and of the clinical nature of most case management services. Statements were made that if a social worker was not performing psychotherapy, then they are not "doing" clinical social work.

Once we gathered all the information we needed, working with our friends at SEIU Local 509, we began to have meetings with key legislative leaders to help them understand the situation. The president of SEIU 509 and I wrote a joint letter to the chairs of key committees, to the commissioner of the Division of Professional Licensure, and to the secretary of the Executive Office of Health and Human Services. We also organized social workers to attend licensing board meetings as a group to register our objections to this new interpretation of social work regulations.


Through our advocacy efforts, we were able to get the licensing board to change its course. Going forward, they decided, LCSWs with the appropriate clinical hours (3500), regardless of their work setting, will be allowed to sit for the LICSW test.

**While this was an important victory demonstrating the power of organized action, a very important question remained: how could the licensing board make such a sweeping decision like this—a decision that could arguably change the very fabric of the social work profession?** The answer is actually simple. There is no statute in Massachusetts state law defining clinical social work practice. If we, therefore, wanted to get to the

root of the problem, we understood that our advocacy was not over.

Working with our Director of Clinical Practice, we created a committee of clinical social workers to think together about what the definition of clinical social work should be in state statute so that we could define it, instead of another entity defining it for us. These stakeholders hailed from hospital social work to child welfare to academia and practice areas in between. Together, we spent months walking through the core elements of clinical social work practice. **As a result of the hard work of this group, I am proud to share with you our newest priority bill for the 2021–2022 session: An Act to Define Clinical Social Work Practice.** This bill will ensure that everyone understands what it means to be a clinical social worker, including the licensing board.

When that first hospital social worker who had been denied the opportunity to sit for the test emerged from the licensing board meeting where she found out the barrier had been removed, she wept. Her entire career had been on the line, including her chances for promotion and any upward mobility. With passage of our bill in the coming session, I feel confident no social worker will have to go through what she did.

For more information on how to get involved with advocacy for *An Act to Define Clinical Social Work Practice* this legislative session, please be in touch with me at [rgewirtz.naswma@socialworkers.org](mailto:rgewirtz.naswma@socialworkers.org). 

\* name has been changed to protect the individual's privacy





## Major Victories in 2019–2020 Legislative Session

In early January, we closed out the 2019–2020 legislative session with an impressive list of budget and bill victories. Since the session began in January 2019, we successfully advanced professional social work practice and social, economic, and racial justice by banning LGBTQ conversion therapy, eliminating insurance company “ghost networks,” raising cash assistance grants for families in deep poverty, creating police accountability, securing permanent payment parity for behavioral telehealth, and much more. To see a full list of our legislative victories this session, please see our 2020 Annual Report on page 21.

## LEAD-ing the Way... Virtually

NASW-MA's annual Legislative Education and Advocacy Day (LEAD) will be conducted virtually this year. LEAD is consistently the largest lobby day at the State House, so while we will not be able to fill the halls on Beacon Hill this year, we look forward to training the next generation of advocates on March 23, 2021. All social work students in Massachusetts are encouraged to attend. To learn more and to register, please visit [cqrcengage.com/socialworkersma/LEAD](http://cqrcengage.com/socialworkersma/LEAD).



## Therapy Matcher Referral Program Gets a Boost

NASW-MA's Therapy Matcher referral program got a funding boost through the FY21 state budget. **This influx of funding allows us to dramatically lower**



LaToya Lopez at the Symposium 2018 Student Poster Session

**the cost for social workers in private practice to join the network.** Therapy Matcher is a public service of NASW-MA, matching consumers to qualified LICSWs for free. The demand for therapists is high and we have referrals that are a perfect match for your practice. Join Therapy Matcher today at a new low rate to start receiving expertly matched referrals immediately. Learn more: [naswma.org/TMprovider](http://naswma.org/TMprovider).

## MLK Forum on Racial Justice and Anti-Racist Social Work Practice

In January, we hosted our 7th annual MLK Forum on Racial Justice. This year's MLK Forum explored what it means to be an anti-racist social work practitioner. Led by moderator **Dr. Rob Eschmann**, Boston University School of Social Work professor and Assistant Director of Research at the Center for Antiracist Research, 250 social workers listened to panelists **Dr. Robbie Tourse, Dr. Judith Willison, Rebecca Jackson, MSW, and Felicia Kanu, MSW candidate** share their experiences and perspectives on anti-racist social work practice. For those who could not attend, you can find a recording of the discussion on our YouTube channel (NASW-MA Chapter). We are proud to offer this annual continuing education program for free to all social workers each year.

## Third Biennial Student Poster Session @ Symposium 2021

The Student Poster Session @ Symposium will be held virtually on April 15, 2021, from 6:00–7:30 pm. BSW, MSW, and DSW/PhD students are welcome to apply. **Applications are due by February 22, 2021.** Students whose applications are accepted will be invited to create a virtual poster presentation and participate in a live Q&A session on April 15th. If you have any questions or need assistance in the application process, please contact Noël Schutz, Membership and Advocacy Manager: [nschutz.naswma@socialworkers.org](mailto:nschutz.naswma@socialworkers.org). Additional details are available on our website: [naswma.org/symp21](http://naswma.org/symp21).

## Social Workers and the COVID-19 Vaccine

The vaccine roll-out in Massachusetts has 3 phases. Phase 1, which is scheduled to end in February, includes “health care workers doing non-COVID-facing care.” After much confusion about who is included in this category, LICSWs in group or private practice, even those who are solely providing tele-therapy at this time, have been able to receive the vaccine. For more information on vaccine distribution and to find vaccination sites near you, please visit [mass.gov/COVIDvaccine](http://mass.gov/COVIDvaccine).

## Required DPH Domestic Violence Training for Licensed Social Workers

A new state law, “An Act Relative to Domestic Violence,” mandates domestic violence and sexual assault training for licensed social workers and other health care professionals. The law is often referred to as *Chapter 260*. **It is a one-time requirement, due on your next renewal date.** In order to be in compliance, it is required to take a DPH-approved course. DPH has a free online course available for social workers. The MA Board of Registration of Social Workers has approved the DPH course for 2 CEUs. You can access this required course here: [chapter260training.org/courses/training](http://chapter260training.org/courses/training).

### Northeast

Ashley Joyce St Laurent  
Carrie Jelsma  
Dorene Ephraim Kyando  
Elizabeth E. Arsenault  
Erin McAleer Crowley  
Heather Ann Norcross  
Isabella Ann Blanchette  
Latashia White  
Marian B. Re  
Maya Brandman  
Shlomit Cohen Yashar  
Vanessa Rachels

### Greater Boston

Adriana RK Hastie  
Andrew David Loeser  
Anne Livermore  
Archana Amin  
Ariana Wermer-Colan  
Ashley V. Dortch  
Betsey Stone  
Brandy T. Allen  
Christopher Greenwood  
David Michael Gabriel  
Dennis Falcione  
Emily Teresa Nash  
Gerelyn Baez  
Guilherme Basso  
Hannah Catherine Elliott  
Jennifer M. Solomon  
Jessica Whitfield  
Jill Meredith Schreider  
Johnna Elaine Marcus  
Joli Sparkman Bayron  
Julie Fishman  
Julie Paige Stevens  
Karen Frucci  
Kendra Harris  
Kerlyne Pacombe  
Kimberly Snapper  
Laura Falotico  
Lillian V. Watkins  
Maria Izquier  
Maria Mercedes Garcia  
Marissa Rogers  
Megan Alice Niegisch  
Meredith Winter  
Micheale Guerrero  
Molly Robson  
Naiyelly Kersey  
Nicole Loux Charos  
Pamela Atanasoff  
Rachel Bonenfant  
Rachel Probst  
Ramika Q. Smith  
Robin Ann Montague  
Samuel Mudge  
Savannah Skye Walker  
Sherri Lynne Godlin  
Sophia Jelsma

NASW-MA is powered by our members. To view member benefits and to join, visit: [naswma.org/membership](http://naswma.org/membership).

Stacey Peters  
Tenealia Ann Gilmore  
Tracy Daugherty  
William Ruhm  
Yorlady S. Corredor-Purciful

### Central

Catherine Cruz  
Heather Alden  
Jill Darling  
Kathryn Gilmore Barnes  
Kelly E. Pelletier  
Magdalene Mugure Njuguna  
Michaela White  
Susan Stasia Richardson  
Vilmary G. Lopez

### Pioneer Valley

Abigayle Anastasia Augustus  
Alex Climenko Gottschalk  
Davis Chandler  
Elisha DeJesus  
Eric Hopkins  
Erin Hall, None  
Kathleen Werner  
Liam Botelho  
Maria Carrero  
Marie Quinones  
Mary Elizabeth Parks  
Phalyn Rose Filiault  
Sarah Bleichfeld  
Sheila DeRensis  
Shelly Warren  
Stephanie Mary Tremblay  
Terri O'Toole  
Yuiza M. Figueroa

### Berkshire

Lucia Neviit  
Mary Maddux  
Vanessa Brown

### Southeast

Allysia Houck  
Amanda Magalhaes  
Bianca Janee Dunbar  
Erica Elaine Urban  
Jaclyn Torres  
Jennifer Beirne  
Jessica Thornton  
Karen W Jason  
Katey Pestilli  
Kellie Ferreira  
Kimberley Remick  
Lindsay Chernecky  
Maria-Francesca Martin  
Marie Immacula Andre  
Michaela smith  
Mikayla Bates  
Nicole Tsina  
Raechelle Joyner  
Ronald Andrew Muccitelli

## Barbara Lomax

Barbara Lomax started her professional career doing property management and soon realized she was providing motivational counseling to her colleagues and clients. This realization prompted her to go back to school to get her master's degree in social work. Barbara has worked for the Committee for Public Counsel Services (CPCS) for 14 years. There, she is part of a team that assists indigent people with legal issues within the criminal-legal system. “The work is interesting and fast paced, and if you like advocacy, very fulfilling,” she said. In her role, she sees the need for resources firsthand, and witnesses the injustices and inequities primarily faced by people of color.

Barbara's advocacy is not contained by her professional role at CPCS—it is also personal. Barbara was one of the founding members of the Mass Bail Fund, an organization that pays up to \$5,000 bail for low-income people so that they can stay free and productive while their cases are being resolved. The idea for the Mass Bail Fund stemmed from one social worker who saw this need in the communities she worked in and wanted to help eliminate it. A community of social workers combined efforts and came together as a group to remove barriers for marginalized populations. This is the essence of social work at its core.

**Barbara believes that it is good for social workers to be involved in advocacy that occurs outside of their professional role.** Her advocacy work began in 2006 while volunteering for an agency called MataHari-Eye of the Day, a domestic violence agency that focuses on women of color, immigration issues, and domestic workers.

For social workers who are re-orienting themselves with the profession's social justice roots, remember that your clinical skills and advocacy skills give you the opportunity to become more involved in changing oppressive and systemic structures that negatively impact clients and communities every day.

As social workers committed to social justice, Barbara believes we must not be complacent. Barbara feels that the change happening this time is different. Prior to this summer, people saw racial injustice, but it was harder to fight because it did not have a voice. This time it has many voices and is in plain view for everyone to see—and fight. **Social workers are obligated to address racism and inequities that exist at all levels. Barbara says, “This is a time of crisis in our society but there is also the opportunity to address racial injustice.” Social workers must be at the forefront.**

Keeping all of this in mind, Barbara's advice to newer social workers is to practice wellness and self-care. Taking care of others is critically important but we must first take care of ourselves. 🌱







# A New Dawn for the Fight for Social Justice

*Inspiration from Amanda Gorman for the Work Ahead*

**Jamie Klufts, MPH**

Director of Communications  
& Strategic Initiatives

If you are anything like me, youth poet laureate Amanda Gorman's words on inauguration day were the balm—and call to action—my soul needed. The picture

she painted is one of “a nation that isn't broken / but simply unfinished.” No matter the temptation to accept “what just is,” we know that our call to fight for equity and justice is unwavering. It is this call that guides our advocacy work



Jamie Klufts, MPH

at NASW-MA. This moment requires us to “lift our gazes not to what stands between us / but what stands before us.” The opportunity before us requires a collective commitment to challenging the many social injustices—including racial, economic, and environmental injustices—that plague our nation. It is through advocacy for meaningful policy changes that we can begin to dismantle these injustices and create a country and Commonwealth that enables everyone to thrive.

**A wise person once told me that when we design policies for the most vulnerable and marginalized among us, everyone benefits.** There are so many examples of this, including a recent Executive Order signed by President Biden that will boost the weekly value of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits by 15–20% for a family of four. On the

surface, this appears to only improve the lives of some of our poorest residents. And yet, data shows that SNAP is one of the fastest and most effective ways to inject money into our economy, especially during an economic downturn. SNAP recipients spend their food dollars within weeks of receiving them at our grocery stores, farmers markets, and other food vendors, boosting our local economies. Having more food dollars in-hand also frees up other sources of income to meet other needs such as housing. This too is good for our economy.

At NASW-MA, we have long-fought for policies like the expansion of food assistance programs that have far-reaching, positive impacts on those who are vulnerable, oppressed, or living in poverty. **With the start of the new legislative session on January 6, 2021, we turned our attention to finalizing our 2021–2022 legislative agenda.** It is important to be narrowly focused and strategic in our advocacy in order to be effective, but because of the wide-range of practice areas within and facets of social work it is always challenging to choose just a handful of the thousands of bills filed each session to focus on.

After much deliberation and collaboration with our Legislative Advocacy Committee, we selected 10 bills to fight for in the years ahead. These bills work to advance social work practice and criminal, economic, education, and immigrant justice. Importantly, each bill will advance our organizational commitment to racial justice. At the time of this writing, our Board has not yet approved our new legislative agenda, but we are eager to share it with you and join with you to fight to advance these important public policies. When it is ready, you will be able to find it on [cqrengage.com/socialworkersma.org](https://cqrengage.com/socialworkersma.org).

There are many ways to join with us and fight for equity and justice in the years ahead, whether by joining our Legislative Advocacy Committee (LAC), attending our annual Legislative Education and Advocacy Day (LEAD), taking action through our Legislative Alert Network, attending a lobby day for a priority bill on our agenda, or by letting us know about your areas of expertise so that we can call upon you to testify alongside us at hearings for bills that advance the mission of the social work profession.

*The opportunity before us requires a collective commitment to challenging the many social injustices—including racial, economic, and environmental injustices—that plague our nation.*

**While a new presidential administration ushered in hope and allowed us all to take a deep, collective breath, our work is far from over.** This moment calls for all of us to keep pushing forward. After all, as Amanda reminds us, “while we have our eyes on the future / history has its eyes on us // This is the era of just redemption.”



## Comprehensive Coverage for Social Workers



Mistakes happen. Not having proper coverage doesn't have to be one of them.

### Individual Coverage

NASW Assurance Services (ASI) provides professional liability, general liability and cyber liability insurance for social workers to ensure you are protected. ASI also covers students with reliable, affordable professional liability insurance.

### Organizational Coverage

We provide liability coverage for social service small businesses, agencies, non-profits and schools of social work.

### Enroll now for access to the only NASW-Endorsed Liability Insurance Program

We offer the most comprehensive coverage for social workers, and our program is developed and overseen by social workers.



Enroll today at [www.naswassurance.org/mavoice](https://www.naswassurance.org/mavoice)

Questions? Contact us at [asi@naswasi.org](mailto:asi@naswasi.org) or call 855-385-2160



# State Lines, Boundaries, and Ethics

Kate Robinson, MA, LICSW, CCTP

Since the pandemic began, there are many questions about ethics of termination and providing services from one state to another in addition to those around whether there is health insurance and liability coverage for such practices.



Kate Robinson, MA, LICSW, CCTP

This article should not be confused with legal advice and like with most ethical questions, there is no definitive answer to many scenarios. That said, I hope to provide some clarity about what is being asked when those in private practice need to consider

jurisdiction, malpractice coverage, and ethics. I begin with simplified versions of two of the most frequently asked questions on the NASW-MA private practice listserv.

**“If I am in Massachusetts and my client lives/works/or is otherwise in another state, can I continue to provide therapy?”**

Outside of the emergency measures implemented by many states at the start of the pandemic, many of which have evolved or reverted to their original rules, the answer may vary between the malpractice carrier, the insurer, and the state licensing laws.

- **Malpractice Carrier:** it is always a good idea to check with your malpractice carrier to make sure you are covered.
- **Client Insurance Coverage:** make certain the insurer will pay regardless of your location and the location of the client.

- **Licensing:** in most instances, if you are providing therapy to a person in one state and you are living/working in another, you typically must be licensed in both states: the one where you provide the services and the one in which the client is at the time of services.

The last point is the most important consideration for several reasons. One, you do not want to violate licensing laws in any state as it could impact your license in your primary practice location. Next, while an insurer may state that you will receive reimbursement regardless of your or the client’s location, the insurer may assume that you are licensed as required by law when making that statement. Additionally, your malpractice carrier may state it covers you regardless of your location or the location of your client, yet again, the assumption may be that you are licensed where you are practicing.

**“Is it ethical to terminate services if a client leaves the state and therapy is not complete or there is some other risk factor?”**

This question is more complex as there is no clear “yes” or “no.” A good place to begin may be to explore why the client is in a new location. Was it an emergency or was advance planning possible? What are the circumstances surrounding the client’s need for services right now? Are there available services near the client? Other questions include: what were the goals of therapy? How near completion of the work were you? What skills does the client have to manage in the circumstances? Can the client come across state lines to meet with you, even for telehealth? Are there now other treatment priorities than the original need or desire for therapy? How concerning is the client’s condition or symptoms? Are you aware of emergency services in the area where the client lives?

Further consideration may include reflection or supervisory consultation to explore boundaries in the therapeutic relationship. Did the client choose to move and then expect the therapist to provide services including undertaking the expense and effort of becoming licensed in the new state? Is the need truly the client’s or are we fearful of malpractice? What is motivating our sense of obligation to possibly violate licensing laws if we believe it is ethical to continue (and unethical to terminate) treatment? What are alternatives to this, such as referral?

If you come to the conclusion that it is best to terminate services, remember that it is always good practice to provide a warm hand-off and help the client find a new therapist.

Consultation with the insurer, licensing boards, and the malpractice carrier may be supported with self-reflection or seeking supervision around these questions. Additionally, NASW members in Massachusetts have access to NASW-MA’s Director of Clinical Practice Barbara Burka ([bburka@socialworkers.org](mailto:bburka@socialworkers.org)) as well as NASW National’s Ethics Consultation Hotline (1-800-742-4089).

**About Kate:**

Kate Robinson, MA, LICSW, CCTP, is Service Coordinator Supervisor and serves the Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts areas at PLAN of Massachusetts and Rhode Island. She is a clinical consultant with a Massachusetts agency and writes continuing education content for Correctional Psychiatric Services. Contact Kate at [krobinson@planofma-ri.org](mailto:krobinson@planofma-ri.org).

# What Clinicians Need to Know Right Now

Barbara Burka, LICSW

Director of Clinical Practice/  
Director of Therapy Matcher

This has been an eventful time in the world of the managed care, and NASW-MA continues to work to keep members informed, and to advocate with MCOs and state government on behalf of providers and clients.

- Our **Managed Care Commission**, a longstanding group of representatives from NASW and insurance plans, continues to meet regularly. We have strong connections at each of the MCOs, and reach out to them directly as needed.

The **Managed Care Liaison Committee** is a group of very active volunteers who provide invaluable assistance in this effort. Members of this committee are Jennifer Erbe-Leggett, Lillian Fox, Emily Leadholm, Gerry Miller, Niki Sinopoli-Fein, Brooks Stevens, and Emma Uppal.

- **NASW has been tracking the many changes for telehealth coverage** and billing that have occurred since last March. We created a webpage on the NASW-MA site, which is updated regularly: [www.naswma.org/telehealth](http://www.naswma.org/telehealth).

Cost-share waiver updates are summarized at the end of this article. We do advise that changes can still occur, and providers should pay close attention to information directly from insurers.

- We are pleased that our advocacy work in collaboration with others paid off with the passage of the bill **An Act promoting a resilient health care system that puts patients first**, which includes several important provisions for behavioral health telehealth.

Insurers will now be mandated to permanently cover telehealth (including audio-only) for any service provided

in-person, and with reimbursement equivalent to in-person services. NASW-MA was very involved in helping to craft that language, and advocating for its passage.

- **Medicare coverage** for telehealth has been extended through 2021, with possible permanent extension. New Medicare rates for 2021 will be posted soon, with most codes showing increases.

- **Optum** has announced a new paid electronic claims system that would remove some important functions from its current free online system. NASW has serious concerns about this, and is challenging it through direct advocacy with Optum, and through regulatory and legislative channels.

- **Tufts and Harvard Pilgrim** have announced that their planned merger has become official. For now, there are no changes to behavioral health coverage for clients with coverage through either plan.

**Cost-share waiver updates**

- Cigna did not waive cost-share for BH
- BCBS will continue to waive cost-share for BH telehealth through the end of the MA State of Emergency



Barbara Burka, LICSW

- Optum plans
  - Harvard Pilgrim and United Healthcare ended waiver as of 10/1/20
  - AllWays Commercial and City of Boston plans ended 1/1/21
  - AllWays GIC plans ending 4/1/21
  - AllWays plans covering Partners employees do not yet have an end date
- Tufts ended waiver on 1/1/21
- Beacon plans
  - BMC Healthnet ended waiver 1/1/21
  - UniCare and Fallon will end on 4/1/21
- Aetna waiver ends on 2/1/21
- NOTE that for all plans, self-insured plans can have different policies

# Licensing Test Prep

## WE ARE VIRTUAL!

### UPCOMING DATES

- **February 6** | Virtual via GoToMeeting  
Online registration closes 2/4/21
- **March 10** | Virtual via GoToMeeting  
Online registration closes 3/9/21
- **April 10** | Virtual via GoToMeeting  
Online registration closes 4/8/21

**details & registration:**  
[www.naswma.org/prep](http://www.naswma.org/prep)

- **ASWB Study Guide**
- **7 Hour Test Prep**
- **Access to Interactive Q&A**



**Monthly trainings for providers who serve the most vulnerable members of our communities.**

*Training topics include:*  
Addiction • Homelessness  
Trauma • Mental/Behavioral Health  
Aging • Provider Self-Care

**February 2021  
Webinar Training  
The Opioid Crisis during the  
COVID-19 Era with presenter  
Dr. Joji Suzuki**

To register for webinar trainings,  
add your name to the  
new course email list at  
**[www.glss.net/conversations](http://www.glss.net/conversations)**



**Offering  
CEUs\* in:**  
**Social Work**  
**Nursing**  
**LADC**  
**EMS**

\*as approved by authorizing organizations

*Can't attend the live training?*  
Register for online courses at  
**[www.conversationsforcaring.org](http://www.conversationsforcaring.org)**

**GLSS** Greater Lynn Senior Services  
8 Silsbee Street, Lynn, MA 01901 [www.glss.net](http://www.glss.net)



Continuing Education that Refuels and Inspires  
in the Tradition of the Family Institute of Cambridge

**ALL PROGRAMS LIVE ON ZOOM**

### WORKSHOPS

**Translating Presence on the Screen for Telehealth**

FEBRUARY 19 • Liz Brenner

**Trauma and the IFS Model:  
Releasing Personal and Legacy Burdens**

MARCH 4 & 5 • Richard Schwartz

**Healing Intergenerational Wounds:  
A Relational-Neurobiological Approach**

APRIL 23 • Mona Fishbane

**Self-Led Eating: Healing Parts Who Focus on  
Food and the Body**

JUNE 4 • Jeanne Catanzaro, Diana Dugan Richards

### MOVIE & DISCUSSION ON SUNDAY AFTERNOONS

SUNDAYS, 3:00–6:15 PM • 3CEs

FEBRUARY 21 **Bending the Arc**

MARCH 21 **My Octopus Teacher**

APRIL 11 **A Life On Our Planet**

### COURSES

**Intensive Certificate Program in Family Systems Therapy**

Liz Brenner and faculty • Fridays monthly + retreat

SEPTEMBER 10, 2021 TO JUNE 10, 2022

*Inquire now to attend informational interview*

**Monthly Master Series in Couples Therapy:  
Seven More Approaches to Interviewing**

Corky Becker and guest faculty

FIRST WEDNESDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 2021 TO MAY 2022

### MONTHLY SUPERVISION GROUPS

with Liz Brenner

Supporting individual, couple, and family therapy with adolescents  
and adults.

Got CE's? • [therapytrainingboston.com](http://therapytrainingboston.com) • 617-924-9255



## SPACE RENTAL



Host a workshop, meeting,  
retreat, or event in Worcester

**ONLY \$100/HR**



[heartwellinstitute.org](http://heartwellinstitute.org) | 774-243-6800



# Advocates

Caring Partners. Creative Solutions. Better Lives.

*Join our caring team!*

### We're hiring:

- Jail Diversion Social Worker
- Reentry Navigator
- Integrated Team Clinician
- Bi-lingual Outpatient Clinician
- *and more!*

*Apply Now:*

**[www.Advocates.org/Careers](http://www.Advocates.org/Careers)**

## MEMBERS MAKE CHANGE POSSIBLE

Become a member of YOUR professional organization today to help  
advance equity and justice for all people in the Commonwealth.



For more information about all our membership benefits, visit [naswma.org/membership](http://naswma.org/membership)  
or contact Noël Schutz: [nschutz.naswma@socialworkers.org](mailto:nschutz.naswma@socialworkers.org)

**SOCIALWORKERS.ORG/JOIN**





Regional Staff Contacts

Berkshire & Pioneer Valley

Jeff Schrenzel, 413-782-1757  
jschrenz@wne.edu

Central

Jessica O'Neill  
jessicaoneill9@gmail.com

Northeast

Beth Morrison  
bethoshaffer@hotmail.com

Southeast

Melissa Dawson  
melissabdawson@comcast.net

Greater Boston

NASW-MA, 617-227-9635  
chapter.naswma@socialworkers.org

Check [naswma.org/events](https://naswma.org/events) for additional meeting details.

February 5 & April 2 | 9-10:30 am  
Private Practice Meeting (Pioneer Valley)

February 5, March 5, & April 2  
9:30-11 am  
Private Practice Meeting (Nashoba Valley)

February 11 & March 11 | 5:30 pm  
Legislative Advocacy Committee Meeting

February 11 | 7:30-9 pm  
Why Aren't You Listening to What I'm  
Saying? Epistemic Injustice in Acute Mental  
Health Settings with Maureen Clark, LICSW  
> 1.5 CEUs  
Sponsored by the Berkshire &  
Pioneer Valley Regional Councils  
Register: [naswma.org/events](https://naswma.org/events)  
Free for NASW-MA members

February 15 & March 15 | 5:30 pm  
Central Regional Council Meeting

February 16 & March 16 | 5:45-7 pm  
Political Action for Candidate Election  
(PACE) Committee Meeting

February 17 & March 17 | 10-11:30 am  
Retired & Retiring Shared Interest  
Group Meeting

February 19 & March 19  
9-10:30 am  
Private Practice Meeting (Greater Boston)

February 22 | 5:30 pm  
Criminal Justice Committee Meeting

February 22 & March 29 | 7-8 pm  
Southeast Regional Council Meeting

February 25 | 7:30-9 pm  
The Intersections of Domestic Violence  
and Substance Misuse and Trauma with  
Becky Lockwood, LCSW  
> 1.5 CEUs  
Sponsored by the Berkshire & Pioneer  
Valley Regional Councils  
Register: [naswma.org/events](https://naswma.org/events)  
Free for NASW-MA members

February 26 & March 26 | 9:30-10:45 am  
Private Practice Meeting (Southeast)

February 26 & March 26 | 10-11:30 am  
Private Practice Meeting (Worcester)

March 11 | 7:30-9 pm  
What Do We Mean by "Clinical" in Social  
Work? With Jim Drisko, PhD, MSW  
> 1.5 CEUs  
Sponsored by the Berkshire &  
Pioneer Valley Regional Councils  
Register: [naswma.org/events](https://naswma.org/events)  
Free for NASW-MA members

March 25 | 7:30-9 pm  
Helping the New Immigrant Acclimate  
to Our Culture with Tom Verdi, LICSW  
and Paulo Emiliano  
> 1.5 CEUs  
Sponsored by the Berkshire &  
Pioneer Valley Regional Councils  
Register: [naswma.org/events](https://naswma.org/events)  
Free for NASW-MA members

March 25 | 7:30-9 pm  
The Intersections of Domestic Violence and  
Substance Misuse and Trauma with Becky  
Lockwood, LCSW  
> 1.5 CEUs  
Sponsored by the Berkshire &  
Pioneer Valley Regional Councils  
Register: [naswma.org/events](https://naswma.org/events)  
Free for NASW-MA members

March 29 | 7 pm  
Southeast Regional Council Meeting



Spring CE courses presented by:

THE CHA DIVISION OF  
CONTINUING EDUCATION  
IN PSYCHIATRY

- Mar 5-6 Treating the Addictions
- Apr 9-10 Updates and Innovations  
in Geriatric Mental Health
- Apr 30-May 1 Meditation and Psychotherapy:  
Learning from Non-Ordinary States

Engage with leading faculty in a convenient livestream  
format. Register at [www.cambridgecme.org](https://www.cambridgecme.org).

GR21\_102

SYMPOSIUM  
THURSDAY, APRIL 15 - FRIDAY, APRIL 16

2020  
2021



VOICES OF EMPOWERMENT AND  
SOCIAL JUSTICE

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

JOY ANGELA DEGRUY, PHD, MSW  
Author of: *Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome: America's  
Legacy of Enduring Injury & Healing*

THURSDAY, APRIL 15TH

7:30am	Conference begins
7:30am - 9:30am	Thursday Breakfast   Sponsored Q&A Session
8:30am - 11:45am	Morning Intensive Workshops
11:45am - 12:45pm	Thursday Lunch   Sponsored Q&A Session
12:45pm - 2:15pm	Opening Keynote
2:45pm - 4:15pm	Session I Workshops
4:45pm - 6:15pm	Session II Workshops
6:00pm - 7:30pm	Student Poster Session
7:30pm - 9:30pm	Evening Intensive Workshop

FRIDAY, APRIL 16TH

7:30am	Conference begins
7:30am - 9:00am	Friday Breakfast   Sponsored Q&A Session
8:15am - 9:45am	Session III Workshops
10:15am - 11:45am	Session IV Workshops
12:00pm - 1:15pm	Friday Lunch   Sponsored Q&A Session
1:45pm - 3:15pm	Session V Workshops
3:45pm - 5:15pm	Session VI Workshops

\*Additional Fees apply. CEUs approved for social workers and LMHC. The Massachusetts Board of Registration of Social Work expects all CE programs to achieve the highest standard for CE requirements. The standard is 100% attendance at each CE program.

UP TO 15.5 CEUS  
OVER TWO DAYS

80+ WORKSHOPS

SPONSOR,  
EXHIBITOR &  
ADVERTISING  
OPPORTUNITIES

VOLUNTEER  
OPPORTUNITIES





## THURSDAY, APRIL 15 | MORNING INTENSIVES | 3 CEUS

**A | Leadership: Moving Organizations from Unconscious Bias to Conscious Anti-Racism** - Drawing from theories of systemic racism, we will examine the complexities of overt and unconscious bias. Along with participants, we will develop recommendations for creating inclusive organizations. The Center for the Study of Diversity and Social Change (CSDSC): Betty Morningstar, PhD, LICSW; Angela Wangari Walter, PhD, MPH, MSW; Robbie Welch Christler Tourse, PhD, LICSW; Yvonne Ruiz, PhD, LICSW; Bet MacArthur, LICSW

**B | Making the State House Work for You** - Participants will be given an overview of the Massachusetts legislature, how to contact and lobby legislators (via role play) and utilize them as a clinical resource. Sophie Hansen, LCSW

**C | Providing Gender-Affirming Clinical Care: Practical Guidance** - This workshop will support therapists with gender diverse clients to provide sensitive, relevant, and insightful counseling and/or medical treatment referrals. Ruben Hopwood, MDiv, PhD

**D | Misery or Mastery: Mental Health Documentation Clarified** - Translate your intuition into logical and insurance friendly documentation. Protect your income. Avoid legal nightmares. Learn to implement The Golden Thread to justify medical necessity. Beth Rontal, LICSW

**E | Incorporating Telehealth in Behavioral Health Services** - This workshop will introduce social workers to telebehavioral health, familiarize participants with research on its effectiveness, address legal and ethical issues, and help social workers employed in health centers or in private practice assess their readiness to offer telehealth services. Myrtise Kretsedemas, LICSW

**H | Wired To Connect: The Surprising Link Between Brain Science and Strong, Healthy Relationships** - This workshop will provide an update on the neuroscience of human relationships and will offer concrete strategies to help clinicians work with clients to build stronger neural pathways for connection leading to more rewarding relationships. Amy Banks, MD

**I | Improving Mental Health Among Asian-American Women** - This workshop focuses on the theoretical framework to understand poor mental health problems among young Asian American women. It also addresses the current research results and new evidence-based intervention regarding AWARE intervention in reducing depression, anxiety, PTSD symptoms. Hyeouk Hahm, PhD, LCSW

**J | Seeking Safety Where There is None: Impact of Immigration Policies on Asylum Seekers and Refugee** - This workshop will provide an overview of the worldwide refugee crisis with a focus on the recent changes in the US policies and impact on asylum seekers and refugees. Trauma-informed and culturally sensitive approaches with these populations will be discussed. Mojdeh Rohani, LICSW

**L | The Power of Shame** - Shame is a common sequelae to trauma and often an underlying cause of behaviors that bring people to the attention of helping professionals. This workshop will explore the role shame plays in such behaviors, and cover implications for treatment approaches, and challenges to countertransference management. Linda (Lynn) Sanford, LICSW

**M | The Art of Diagnosis** - Although a large component of the daily work of social workers is to diagnose psychiatric illnesses, there is little education on how to do that well. This training teaches how to differentially diagnose using specific questions and provides distinct tools that clinicians can use in clinical sessions. Jennifer Berton, PhD, LICSW, CADC-II

**N | Clinical Ethics in Social Work: A Pragmatic Guide** - Using clinical case vignettes and didactics, this workshop will review changes to the NASW Code of Ethics, including social media, and provide tools to approaching ethical binds within clinical practice. Stephen, O'Neill, JD, LICSW, BCD.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 15 | OPENING KEYNOTE | 1.5 CEUS

**The Intersections of Historical Mass Trauma, Racial Terrorism and African American Mental Health** - Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome (P.T.S.S.) is a theory that explains the etiology of many of the adaptive survival behaviors in African American communities throughout the United States and the Diaspora. It is a condition that exists as a consequence of multigenerational oppression of Africans and their descendants resulting from centuries of chattel slavery. A form of slavery which was predicated on the belief that African Americans were inherently/genetically inferior to whites. Participants will learn strategies to combat institutionalized racism and promote healing. *Joy DeGruy, PhD, MSW*



## THURSDAY, APRIL 15 | SESSION 1 WORKSHOPS | 1.5 CEUS

**008 | Cultural Conundrums: Can Parenting Programs Become More Diverse?** - Compare and contrast how parent training programs fit the values, practices, and constraints of racially, ethnically, and economically diverse parents can improve interventions and increase participation and positive outcomes. Karen Zilberstein, MSW

**012 | The Neurobiological Treatment of Trauma** - Participants will learn the structure of trauma and an evidence-based technique from the field of Energy Psychology for rapidly clearing trauma from the conscious mind, unconscious mind and body. Judith Swack, PhD; Wendy Rawlings, MS, LMHC

**021 | Re-Thinking Challenging Kids: The Collaborative Problem Solving Model** - Introduction to Collaborative Problem Solving®, an evidence-based practice to help behaviorally challenging kids build crucial thinking skills like problem-solving, frustration tolerance and cognitive flexibility. Ben Stich, MSW, M.Ed

**023 | The Confident Leader: Maximizing Your Potential for Everyday Success** - Social work = challenging career; this workshop is designed for managers and clinicians to help them uncover unhelpful habits that prevent them from reaching their full potential. Julie McGarth, LICSW

**034 | Yoga-CBT: A Mind Body Solution for Anxiety** - Yoga Cognitive Behavioral Therapy is a research-based group treatment that blends CBT with yoga, targeting both the physical and cognitive symptoms of anxiety simultaneously. Julie Greiner-Ferris, LICSW

**036 | So You've Learned About Microaggressions. Now What???** - Social workers have an ethical obligation to address oppression in all forms. Participants will practice intervention strategies to mitigate harm and increase social justice. Ashley Davis, PhD, LICSW; Nicole Ivone, LCSW; Makieya Kamara, MSW, MS

**045 | Collaborative Approaches to Mentoring Youth Impacted by Foster Care** - We will explore and deepen our understanding of tangible tools and practices that support long-term, sustainable, and supportive mentoring relationships for youth impacted by foster care. Victoria Murray, LCSW

**059 | What Does "Trauma Informed" Look Like in Practice** - This presentation will discuss best practices for broad implementation of trauma informed care, and will introduce and demonstrate a schema that any support service can use to evaluate their practices. Michelle Wexelblat, LICSW

**064 | Demystifying Clinical Work with Non-Binary Clients** - Think gender is just male and female? It's so much more! Come explore all that exists beyond the gender binary and how to incorporate more inclusive practices into your work. Kelly Exley-Smith, LICSW; Jennifer Harris, LICSW; Caitlin Van Slooten, LICSW

**104 | Beyond Awareness: The My Life My Choice Prevention Solution Model** - My Life My Choice has developed a survivor-led prevention model that includes the development of specialized policies and procedures. Participants will learn about our enhanced Prevention Curriculum and applying it to programs within their jurisdiction. Lisa Goldblatt Grace, MSW, MPH; Audrey Morrissey

**110 | Follow-up to Keynote Address** - 1619-2020: Post, Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome Adaptation, Resilience and Healing: Joy DeGruy's concept of Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome has been studied in the literature under various names - including race-based traumatic stress, insidious trauma, intergenerational trauma, psychological trauma and racism. Following up on Dr. DeGruy's keynote, this workshop will expand on adaptive behaviors, both positive and negative - and discuss implications for interventions aimed at the individual, as well as undoing systemic institutional structures. Johnnie Hamilton-Mason, PhD, LICSW

**114 | The Experience of Sharing Therapy Notes Directly with Patients** - The clinical, research and ethical implications of 6+ years of experience in overseeing the opening up of therapy notes directly to patients at BIDMC and elsewhere will be reviewed. Stephen O'Neill, JD, LICSW, BCD

## THURSDAY, APRIL 15 | SESSION 2 WORKSHOPS | 1.5 CEUS

**004 | Gay Men: A Rich History and A Few Misconceptions** - Why are gay male relationships different? Learn a rich history of change, challenge, and continuity to help better serve gay men. Acceptance doesn't mean understood! Elliott Kronenfeld, MS, LICSW, CST

**005 | Our Federal and State Budgets: Possible Solutions to Ongoing Concerns** - This presentation explores our Federal and State budgets and their impact on services. Funding priorities, concerns and solutions will be discussed. Useful internet policy websites will also be shared. Jeff Schrenzel, PhD, LICSW

**024 | Dismantling Racism: Where Do We Go From Here?** - Presentation and group participation elevating the voices and perspectives of social workers of color while empowering all social workers to act together to dismantle racism. Yvonne Ruiz, PhD, LICSW; NASW-MA's Racial Justice Council

**026 | Stress-Reduction for Social Workers and Clients: Integrating Yoga to Enhance Self-Care** - This workshop will teach you tools including yogic postures and breathing techniques to reduce stress and improve self-care for both you and your clients. Samarra Clayman, MSW; Laura Stevens, LICSW

**035 | Grieving Death by Suicide: Facilitating a Compassionate Journey** - Learn what is unique about grieving a death by suicide. Hear directly from those who have lost someone to suicide how best to provide support. Cheri Andes, MA, BA; Carly Burton, MSW

**037 | Bilingualism and The Clinical Encounter** - Understand and apply concepts of bilingualism to enhance the clinician's ability to develop therapeutic rapport, communicate cultural concepts, and appreciate how language affects identity and emotional expression. Beth Craft, MSW

**050 | Building Supervision Skills for Integrated Behavioral Health Settings** - Geared towards those experienced in providing supervision, participants will gain supervision skills to use within integrated behavioral healthcare to enhance interprofessional teamwork. Nora Padykula, PhD, LICSW; Julie Barrett-Abebee, LICSW; Terri Haven, LICSW

**058 | Less Talking, More Doing: Coaching College Students with Persistent Mental Illness** - This interactive exploration of the coaching model includes an introduction to the evidence-based practice and hands-on, skill-building opportunities for integrating coaching techniques into other settings. Caitrin Thornhill, LCSW; Anne Hamilton, MSW candidate

**062 | The Journey to Mental Health: Create a Roadmap** - Mental health starts before we are born! Help create a roadmap on how to assess and obtain services tailored to each person's situation in order to achieve recovery and success. Carly Sebastian, MSW



**078 | Being the Grownup: Love, Limits and the Natural Authority of Parenthood** - Learn how to help translate parents' determination to care for their children into a more confident expression of both love and limits without the use of verbal or physical coercion. Adelia Moore, PhD

**100 | Trauma and Beyond: Treatment of Maltreated Children with Neurodevelopmental Challenges** - Neurodevelopmental difficulties in maltreated youth compromise their responses to standard trauma-informed treatments. Differentiating symptoms and modifying interventions is crucial to treatment. Karen Zilberstein, MSW

**101 | Rohingya Atrocity Against Women: Documentary Film and Discussion** - This documentary presentation provides an awareness of global social work with a focus on atrocities against Rohingya Muslim minorities in Myanmar. The workshop will give an overview of the violations of social justice and human rights around the world. Nazda Alam, MSS, M.Ed., MSW; Lisa Kerzner-Sirois, EdD, LICSW

## THURSDAY, APRIL 15 | EVENING INTENSIVE | 2 CEUS

**O | Suitcase Stories: Amplifying Immigrant and Refugee Voices** - Suitcase Stories® is a signature program of the International Institute of New England that raises the profile of refugees and immigrants while fostering community through the art of storytelling. In this session featuring live performances by guest storytellers, explore how the stories we tell about immigrant and refugee experiences influence how others view their neighbors, and the world. Cheryl Hamilton, Director IINE Suitcase Stories, along with featured Suitcase Stories storytellers

## FRIDAY, APRIL 16 | SESSION 3 WORKSHOPS | 1.5 CEUS

**002 | Effects of Emotional Abuse: From a Survivor's Perspective** - Learn from a survivor's perspective and witness real-life media examples of how emotional abuse is glamorized for teenagers. How does this impact our work? Kerriann Ostlund, LCSW

**011 | My Brother's Keeper: Promoting Healthy Masculinity** - This workshop will promote healthy, respectful manhood and healthy relationships and discuss concrete ways to decrease language and actions that degrade women and girls. Anthony Hill, Ed.D, LCSW

**025 | The Pathway Home: Gay Sons and Their Mothers** - The emotional connection between gay sons and their mothers has been unexplored and pathologized. This moving workshop provides a strength-based multicultural perspective of hope including lectures and multimedia interviews. Bring Kleenex! Richard Miller, MSW

**027 | The Sensory Nature of Attachment** - An association between sensory processing and attachment has the potential to shift how we conceptualize and provide treatment to families. Utilizing current research, this presentation will examine practice and policy implications. Katherine Walbam, PhD, LICSW

**032 | Becoming a Supervisor: Managing a New Professional Role** - New supervisors face increased administrative responsibility, changed collegial relationships, and many new duties. Apply different models of supervision to manage challenges of your new role. Paula Neiman, LCSW, PhD Candidate

**043 | The ABC's of QI (Quality Improvement), Please!** - Use Quality Improvement practices to keep clients, staff, and funders happy. Create and sustain change using tools like Plan-Do-Study-Act, flowcharting, and more. Megan Wroldson, LICSW; Michelle Streeter, RN

**054 | The Intersection of Social Work and Criminal Justice System on Practice and Policy** - Join this panel of experienced practitioners to discuss Therapeutic Jurisprudence, practical social work applications with the criminal-justice involved, and how your work can impact future policy and practice. Opal Stone, MBA; Sarah Abbott, PhD, LSW; Vincent Lorenti, JD

**060 | Let's Talk About Sex(uality) Through Transition** - How do we talk to clients about changes in sex(uality) during gender affirmation? Explore the impact of these changes on identity and what trauma-informed language to utilize with clients. Rebecca Minor, LICSW

**066 | Deconstructing Racial Scaffolding: Implications for Practice** - Systemic racism impacts the work of social workers both directly and indirectly. This workshop will help practitioners identify and understand the psychological, social, and societal influences of systemic racism that mitigate effective social work practice. Johnnie Hamilton-Mason, PhD, LICSW

**073 | Violence in Relationships** - Violence against women is a significant social and public health problem affecting all societies. What are the implications of staying versus leaving an abusive relationship, and how can clinicians help? Brenda Westberry, MS

**079 | Odd Couple No More: Social Work and ABA (Applied Behavioral Analysis)** - See how the field of Applied Behavior Analysis and Social Work can have a happy, mutually beneficial relationship! Applications for clinical practice, collaboration, and staff and program management included. Rebecca Imming, LICSW, BCBA, LABA

**106 | Tools for Your Toolbox to Manage Conflict Effectively** - This interactive workshop will improve your skills at handling conflict, relevant for all aspects of social work practice including staff management and client interaction. Gail Packer, MSW

**112 | Supporting K-12 Students with Serious Mental Health Challenges: The BRYT Model** - BRYT is a school-based program created by Brookline Center for Community Mental Health, operating at 135 schools. It systematically addresses the needs of students challenged by hospitalization or prolonged absences due to mental illness. Learn about the BRYT model and approach. Katherine Houle, LICSW

## FRIDAY, APRIL 16 | SESSION 4 WORKSHOPS | 1.5 CEUS

**003 | Bringing Nervous System-Informed, Trauma-Sensitive Yoga into the Session.** - Participants will experience, and learn the benefits of, Nervous System-Informed, Trauma-Sensitive Yoga. This approach can re-regulate the dysregulated autonomic nervous system, preparing the client for focused trauma therapy. Joann Lutz, MSW

**007 | Latinx Narrative Therapy** - Narrative therapy is an effective clinical approach to working with Latinx individuals and the cultural, relational, and social challenges that are commonly experienced by Latinx. Yvonne Ruiz, PhD, LICSW

**014 | Intensive Trauma-Focused Therapy** - This workshop will outline the potential benefits and pitfalls of intensive trauma-focused therapy, review the research, and explain how to do it. Ricky Greenwald, PsyD

**020 | Divorce and Family Mediation 101: Helping Families Divorce and Resolve Conflicts** - Mediation is an effective and complementary intervention to therapy that social workers are uniquely qualified to practice. This session provides an introduction to the practice of family and divorce mediation. Ben Stich, MSW, MEd

**022 | Unlikely Partners: Divorce Attorney and Couples' Therapist** - Social worker + Divorce attorney = Magical collaboration! Learn how this unlikely pairing can strengthen connections even during the process of separation. Elliott Kronefeld, LICSW, CST

**033 | NAS: Caring for the Littlest Victims of the Opioid Crisis** - Every 15 minutes a baby is born opiate dependent. These children are the littlest victims of the opiod crisis. How will your practice help these children? Theresa Harmon, MSW; Laura Langevin, RN, LSW; Karen Baker, LICSW

**048 | #BlackLivesMatter: Confronting Racial Capitalism** - To achieve racial justice, racial capitalism must be dismantled. From this presentation, participants will learn how Movement for Black Lives resists racial capitalism. Phillipe Copeland, PhD, LICSW

**053 | Supervisory Challenges: Leading staff in Trauma resilience** - Supervisors have multiple demands that can challenge leadership in traumatic situations. This workshop focuses on advancing relationships with supervisees to foster mutual growth amidst turmoil. Mary Byrne, PhD, LICSW; Carol Masshardt, LICSW

**068 | Unaccompanied Minors: Adjustment, Education, Trauma, and Employment** - Unaccompanied children are an increasing population of immigrants in the US. We will discuss innovative interventions at the clinical and macro levels to ensure their well-being. Kerri Evans, LCSW; Robert Hassan III, PhD, LICSW

**103: Exploring Legacies of Relational and Environmental Trauma: Fear and/or Moral Injury?** - Description: Psychological and social theories inform ways that trauma disrupts attachments in individuals, families, and communities. Resilience and fear-based vs. moral injury-based trauma are highlighted in clinical vignettes. Kathryn Basham, PhD, LICSW, BA

**109 | Working with Managed Care Companies: A Panel Discussion** - MCO representatives will respond to moderator and audience questions regarding their insurance plans/services, network practices, claims processes, and future plans. Panelists will summarize recent changes in policies and practices, and issues being addressed by the NASW-MA Managed Care Commission. Jen Erbe-Leggett, LICSW; Pat Howe, LICSW; and panelists from NASW-MA's Managed Care Commission

## FRIDAY, APRIL 16 | SESSION 5 WORKSHOPS | 1.5 CEUS

**001 | What Causes Change in Psychotherapy? Seeking Common Factors** - This presentation explores and updates the common factors model, showing that client, relationship and clinician factors generate more therapeutic change than do specific therapies. James Drisko, PhD, LICSW

**009 | How to Support Your Clients Through Divorce** - Support clients before, during and after divorce. We will review the emotional and legal impact of divorce, explain divorce process options and resources, and describe common parenting and financial decisions. Beth Aarons, JD, LCSW; Ben Stich, EdD, LICSW

**013 | Sexual Assault Prevention in the Age of #MeToo** - Despite #MeToo, we lack a preventive approach to sexual assault. This workshop will explore identifying and reporting abuse and survivor support to reduce sexual violence. Suzanne Isaza, MSA

**015 | Progressive Counting: An efficient, effective, well tolerated trauma treatment** - Progressive counting (PC) is an efficient, effective, well tolerated research-supported trauma treatment. This workshop will introduce PC, review the research, and provide a brief PC experience. Ricky Greenwald, PsyD

**051 | Taking the Leap of Faith into Private Practice** - This is a panel workshop presentation based on professional experiences of three clinical social workers as well as focusing on the concept of social entrepreneurship. Zaza Sakhat, LICSW; Richard Kaufman, LICSW; Katie Ricciardi, LICSW

**055 | Human Rights, Social Justice, and Advanced Generalist Practice** - Viewing human rights as the foundation of social justice, this workshop examines the implications of a human rights culture for advanced generalist social work practice. Joseph Wronka, PhD

**071 | Culturally Adapting Clinical Interventions: A 10-step Process** - This ten-step process for culturally adapting clinical interventions creates an evidence-based clinical practice that is effective with under-served populations. We will practice Spanish adaptations. Susan Tohn, MSW, LICSW; Ximena Soto, LICSW



**074 | Opiate Treatment in the Epicenter of the Epidemic** - Opiate treatment retention is tied to success so we examined retention records. Participants will identify unintentional retention barriers and plan how to decrease premature departures. Christine Flynn-Saulnier, MSW, PhD, LICSW; Ebenezer Ayiku, MSW Candidate; Nancy Bello, MSW Candidate

**057-1 | Inclusivity of expansive sexual identity in clinical practice - (Part 1 of 2)** This presentation will explore current understanding of sexualities beyond and between hetero/homosexuality through interactive, evaluative, and explorative measures as well as group discussion to improve clinical assessment and treatment. Michelle Wexelblat, LICSW; Rebecca Minor, LICSW (*must attend part 2 in Session 6 to get full CE credit*)

**070-1 | Introduction to Emotionally Focused Therapy - (Part 1 of 2)** Recent research notes that when we have a secure connection to the people we love, we are healthier and feel more satisfied with ourselves and our lives. Danielle Green, LICSW; Suzanne McCarthy, PsyD (*must attend part 2 in Session 6 to get full CE credit*)

## FRIDAY, APRIL 16 | SESSION 6 WORKSHOPS | 1.5 CEUS

**006 | The Art of Apology and How to Own Bad Behavior Without Shame** - Discover the power of skillful apology and explore how accepting responsibility for behaviors and understanding our impact on others allows us to evolve, deepen connections and live with greater ease. Jenn Brandel, LICSW

**010 | Using an Executive Functioning Informed Approach to Coach for Economic Mobility** - Learn how research informs Economic Mobility Pathways' Mobility Mentoring® model and can inform your work with persons experiencing poverty. Raysheema Rainey, MPA; Caroline Koty, MSW, LCSW

**017 | Women Growing Older: Our Bodies Ourselves** - With increased longevity women over 60 are facing new opportunities /challenges. We need to embrace aging, affirm women's growth potential and change the aging paradigm. Joan Ditzion, MSW, MA, BA

**031 | The communication of suicidal intent: Implications for practitioners** - Led by experienced clinicians, this presentation focuses on identifying and interpreting direct and indirect communication of suicidal intent and understanding barriers to effective responses to this communication. Rebecca Mirick, PhD, LICSW; Jim McCauley, LICSW

**038 | The Role of Exercise in Eating Disorder Recovery** - This presentation helps clinicians understand the role of physical activity during mental health treatment, how to identify problematic physical activity, and address the physiological and psychological aspects of problematic activity. Matt Stranberg, MS

**044 | Attunement, Empowerment and Integration: Trauma-Informed Yoga Therapy** - Engaging with survivors of complex trauma requires adaptability and a commitment to non-coercion. Trauma-informed yoga offers practitioners an evidence-based and relationally focused tool to integrate into treatment. Pamela Szczygiel, DSW, LICSW, CYT-500; Angelica Emery-Fetitta, MSW candidate

**049 | Accelerated Resolution Therapy to treat PTSD, Anxiety, etc...** - (ART) is evidenced-based and offers an effective "bottom-up" approach to PTSD, Anxiety, Depression, and many other disorders. Civilian and military populations researched. Amy Shuman, LICSW

**061 | Supporting Post-Secondary Success for Foster Care and Homeless Students** - Findings and recommendations from a program to support the academic success of foster care and homeless students at Westfield State University will be highlighted. Jennifer Propp, PhD; Marjorie Rodriguez, LICSW

**072 | Lessons I Have Learned; Journey to Compassionate Communication** - Learn how to respond to others when dealing with situations of conflict. Communication effectiveness can be enhanced through cultivating flexibility in responding to others. Brenda Westberry, MS

**076 | Slaying the Lonely Dragon: Therapeutic Role-Playing Games** - Integrating neuroscience and social learning theory, therapeutic role-playing games allow clients to break away self-defeating from identities. Explores loneliness, stress, self-concept, and resilience. Molly Reider, MSW

**108 | Military Sexual Trauma Assessment Including Clinical Considerations and Interventions** - Participants will be educated on Military Sexual Trauma including the scope and impact, reporting mechanisms and co-morbidities in the context of military environment and culture, as well as assessment and best clinical practices for trauma informed treatment. Laila Swydan, LICSW

**057-2 | Inclusivity of expansive sexual identity in clinical practice - (Part 2)** This presentation will explore current understanding of sexualities beyond and between hetero/homosexuality through interactive, evaluative, and explorative measures as well as group discussion to improve clinical assessment and treatment. Michelle Wexelblat, LICSW; Rebecca Minor, LICSW (*must attend part 1 in Session 5 to get full CE credit*)

**070-2 | Introduction to Emotionally Focused Therapy - (Part 2)** Recent research notes that when we have a secure connection to the people we love, we are healthier and feel more satisfied with ourselves and our lives. Danielle Green, LICSW; Suzanne McCarthy, PsyD (*must attend part 1 in Session 5 to get full CE credit*)

## INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING AT SYMPOSIUM ?

Volunteer at this year's Symposium and receive **a free registration** on Thursday, April 15 **or** Friday, April 16. Volunteers will be assigned to monitor virtual workshops or networking rooms throughout the day. All workshops will be hosted on Zoom. If you're interested in volunteering, visit our website ([naswma.org/symposium2021](https://naswma.org/symposium2021)) or email us ([symposium.naswma@socialworkers.org](mailto:symposium.naswma@socialworkers.org))

# THANK YOU TO OUR CURRENT SPONSORS & EXHIBITORS!



### PLATINUM SPONSORS



### SILVER SPONSORS



### PREMIER EXHIBITORS



### STANDARD EXHIBITORS



## SPONSOR, EXHIBITOR, AND ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

- Promote your organization to practicing social workers from all over New England!
- Network with all conference participants, speakers, and volunteers.
- Gain brand awareness with hundreds of influential community members.



# NASW-MA SYMPOSIUM 2021

## MAIL-IN REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY | FAX TO 617-227-9877 OR REGISTER ONLINE: NASWMA.ORG/SYMPOSIUM2021

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ NASW Member ID: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_ School of Social Work Attending/Attended: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please select your registration type, admission type (Thursday, Friday or Both), and workshops below.**

Group rate instructions: Submit 4+ registrations together with a single check for all registrants.

### EARLY BIRD RATES Postmarked by March 15

### STANDARD RATES Postmarked after March 15

#### REGISTRATION TYPE

- ☐ NASW Member  
☐ NASW Retired Member  
☐ NASW Student Member  
☐ Non-Member  
☐ Agency Group Rate (each)  
*Requires 4 or more registrants*

#### THURS. FRI. BOTH

- ☐ \$122 ☐ \$162 ☐ **\$269**  
☐ \$81 ☐ \$108 ☐ **\$179**  
☐ \$81 ☐ \$108 ☐ **\$179**  
☐ \$203 ☐ \$270 ☐ **\$449**  
☐ \$122 ☐ \$162 ☐ **\$269**

#### THURS. FRI. BOTH

- ☐ \$135 ☐ \$180 ☐ **\$299**  
☐ \$90 ☐ \$120 ☐ **\$199**  
☐ \$90 ☐ \$120 ☐ **\$199**  
☐ \$225 ☐ \$300 ☐ **\$499**  
☐ \$135 ☐ \$180 ☐ **\$299**

### WORKSHOP SELECTIONS

\_\_\_ SESSION 1 \_\_\_ SESSION 2 \_\_\_ SESSION 3 \_\_\_ SESSION 4 \_\_\_ SESSION 5 \_\_\_ SESSION 6

### MORNING & EVENING INTENSIVES

**THURSDAY, APRIL 15 | 8:30 - 11:45 A.M.**

Morning Intensives (Choose a Letter) \_\_\_

Member

Non-Member

EARLY BIRD  
RATE

☐ \$54

☐ \$81

STANDARD  
RATE

☐ \$60

☐ \$90

**THURSDAY, APRIL 15 | 7:30 - 9:30 P.M.**

Evening Intensive \_\_\_

Member

Non-Member

☐ \$36

☐ \$54

☐ \$40

☐ \$60

### CHECK (PAYABLE TO NASW-MA)

Credit Card Type : ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐ AMEX

### PAYMENT

Symposium Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Morning Intensive Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evening Intensive Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_  
 CC# \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_\_ CV: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If you need a reduced fee to attend, call the Chapter Office by March 29. Cost should not prevent you from attending.

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

## An Unprecedented Year

If 2020 proved anything, it is that social workers are essential. I am in immense awe and filled with gratitude for you and the life-saving and life-enhancing work you do every day, even in the face of extreme adversity. Your resilience, grit, and grace is the glue that holds our society together.



As a nation, we spent much of last year navigating the COVID-19 pandemic, a call to end police violence and advance racial justice, and a tumultuous presidential election. In each instance you were there, providing care and advocating for systems change.

As a profession and organization, we also spent much of last year looking inward at how social work and NASW as a whole has perpetuated white supremacy and caused

undue harm, both to clients and communities of color but also to our BIPOC-identifying colleagues. Thank you for holding us accountable and learning, growing, and leaning in with us and we worked, and will continue to work, to dismantle systems of oppression within our own field.

**While racial justice has always been a part of our work at NASW-MA, especially over the last few years, it took new precedence in 2020.** Thanks to work that began prior to 2020 in collaboration with our Racial Justice Council, we released statements about xenophobia and racism, finalized a new tool to screen all of our priority legislation for its racial justice impact, reviewed our internal policies to ensure that NASW-MA is an equitable and just place to work, and offered training to our staff, board, and other volunteer Chapter leaders. We joined the Massachusetts Public Health Association's Coronavirus and Equity Task Force and advocated for several pieces of emergency legislation that worked to remove systemic and racist barriers to care and resources needed to navigate the pandemic. We offered you new written and virtual continuing education programming and events. We also helped launch a racial injustice working group across NASW chapters and one of our staff was named to National's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee to help move the entire Association forward.

We closed out 2020 by launching a new strategic plan that will help us navigate the rest of the pandemic and its immediate aftermath, including holding us accountable to our continued commitment to be a just organization and to fight for a society garnered by these tenets.

Thank you for your membership.

In Solidarity,

*Rebekah*

Rebekah Gewirtz, MPA, Executive Director

## By the Numbers

In 2020, we:

- Gave out 150 graduation cords to graduating social work students and faculty
- Hosted over 30 continuing education webinars, each worth 1.5 CEUs
- Celebrated staffer Adam Linn's 20 year anniversary with NASW-MA
- Highlighted 15 members through our new Member Spotlight social media campaign
- Endorsed 11 candidates in the general election through our political arm PACE, 8 of whom won
- Published 8 statements, op-eds, and letters to the editor in major statewide publications
- Discussed 5 books through our Central, Northeast, and Social Workers for Racial Justice book clubs



Deb Goldfarb, Co-chair of NASW-MA's Criminal Justice Committee at a rally over the summer with members of NASW-MA's Criminal Justice Committee: Brandy Henry (Co-chair), Carla Monteiro, and Sarah Coughlin (Board President)



Jamie Kluffs, Director of Communications & Strategic Initiatives, campaigns with member Sophie Hansen in support of PACE-endorsed candidate State Representative Tram Nguyen (D-Andover)



# Legislative Advocacy Accomplishments



Director of Communications & Strategic Initiatives Jamie Klufts, member Debby Beck, and Executive Director Rebekah Gewirtz attend an advocacy day in February to Lift Kids Out of Deep Poverty

- **Expanded Voting Options:** In July, we recognized the threat COVID-19 placed on the most consequential election of our lifetimes and fought to expand the availability of mail-in ballots and early voting for Massachusetts voters. As a result, we saw a record-setting number of ballots cast in the general election, more than two million of which were placed by mail, drop box, or through early voting.
- **Passed Police Reform Legislation:** In December, after many months in conference committee, Governor Baker signed important police accountability and racial justice legislation. We advocated for provisions to limit qualified immunity, ban the use of chokeholds, limit the use of no-knock warrants, and make school resource officers optional, all of which were included in the final bill. One of the main outcomes of this legislation will be the creation of the Massachusetts Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission (POST) to standardize the certification, training, and decertification of police officers. One of the 9 Commission members will be a social worker identified by NASW-MA.
- **Expanded Access to Abortion Care:** Through our work in the ROE Act Coalition, we helped pass a law that includes key provisions of the ROE Act, expanding access to abortion care for young people ages 16 & 17 and people who get devastating diagnoses later in pregnancy.

These victories closed out our 2019-2020 legislative session wins, which included: banning conversion therapy, repealing the family welfare cap ("cap on kids"), limiting clawbacks on mental health providers, and eliminating insurance company "ghost networks."

# Budget Wins

In the state's Fiscal Year 2021 budget we worked in coalitions and independently to:

- **Fund Therapy Matcher:** We secured \$50,000 for Therapy Matcher, NASW-MA's free therapy referral public service program, allowing us to bring more LICSWs into the network to meet the demand. Thank you to our lead sponsors Sen. Hinds and Rep. Balser!
- **Close the SNAP Gap:** As co-chair of the SNAP Gap Coalition, we solidified the state's commitment to closing the SNAP Gap through creation of a common application for MassHealth or the Medicare Savings Program and SNAP. This is in addition to the \$5M we secured through the IT Bond Bill for the technology infrastructure needed to close the SNAP Gap.
- **Lift Families Out of Deep Poverty:** Through our leadership role in the Lift Our Kids Coalition, we helped raise TAFDC and EAEDC cash assistance benefits by 10%, helping families in deep poverty better afford basic necessities. The last TAFDC increase was 20 years ago and the last EAEDC increase was 32 years ago, making this a historic victory.



NASW-MA member State Representative Tami Gouveia (pictured with the Boston Red Cloaks) advocates to expand abortion access in Massachusetts by passing the ROE Act



(Left) Wendy Champagnie Williams, PhD, LICSW, facilitator of NASW-MA and GBABSW's Strategies for Wellness—Finding Affinity Among BIPOC Social Workers webinar. (Right) Senate President Karen Spilka, JD, BSW, recipient of NASW-MA's 2020 Beverly Ross Fliegel Greatest Contribution to Social Policy and Change Award.



# Membership

## Celebrating Social Workers and Allies

On December 1, 2020, we hosted our Annual Awards Celebration virtually, honoring the incredible contributions of 7 social workers and allies. We were thrilled to recognize **Sherry Cohen** with the Lifetime Achievement Award, **Senate President Karen Spilka** with the Beverly Ross Fliegel Greatest Contribution to Social Policy and Change Award, **Ximena Soto** with the Greatest Contribution to Social Work Award, **Charlene Luma** with the Emerging Leader Award, **Daniel Mango** with the Future of Social Work Award, **Harris Gruman** with the Public Citizen of the Year Award, and **Rosie's Place** with the Advocate of the Year Award. During

the event we were joined by several special guests, including **Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley**, **State Senator Cindy Friedman**, and **District Attorney Rachael Rollins**.

## Revitalizing the Student Ambassador Program

In 2020 we reinvigorated our Student Ambassador Program, bringing more than 20 student members representing social work programs from across the state into the program to help us strengthen our connections to the next generation of social workers. Together, these dedicated students hosted events geared toward students and newer professionals and are creating innovative ways to build new lines of communication between schools of social work, students, and our Chapter.

**OUR MISSION:** National Association of Social Workers Massachusetts Chapter is a membership association that advances professional social work practice throughout the Commonwealth and advocates for equity and justice for all people.



NASW-MA Board members, staff, and interns gathered virtually for our annual retreat

# Creating Connection During COVID

Recognizing that connection is essential to well-being, and that so many of us found ourselves incredibly isolated due to stay-at-home advisors, we hosted several virtual non-continuing education events designed to help social workers connect and practice self- and community-care. These events included cyber socials and other networking events, free yoga and mindfulness sessions, virtual picnics and luncheons, and more.

# COVID-19 Clinical Information and Telehealth Advocacy

At the onset of the pandemic, with the support of our Managed Care Commission and Managed Care Liaisons, we consistently advocated with the Governor, Division of Insurance, Licensing Board, and directly with specific insurance plans to ensure fair reimbursement for clinical social workers using telehealth. We also updated our website, sometimes daily, with news about the evolving telehealth landscape, including licensing reciprocity, reimbursement, safe practice guidelines, and more. Members in our Private Practice Google Group received these updates via email and joined with us several times to advocate on the state and federal level to improve access to telehealth for both providers and clients.

In March and April, we also sent all of our members weekly "bulletins," or updates, with information about state regulatory changes, telehealth, resources for food, housing, health care, and more. We brought this information and resource sharing virtual several times throughout the pandemic via Facebook Live conversations with Executive Director Rebekah Gewirtz so our followers could get updates and questions answered in real-time.

**Ultimately, in January 2021, the Governor signed comprehensive telehealth legislation making pay parity for behavioral health providers permanent.**



## CHAPTER STAFF

**Executive Director**  
Rebekah Gewirtz, MPA

**Director of Therapy Matcher and  
Director of Clinical Practice**  
Barbara Burka, LICSW

**Director of Communications & Strategic Initiatives**  
Jamie Kluffs, MPH

**Operations Manager**  
Michael LaBerge, MSM

**Administrative Assistant/  
CE Approval Program Coordinator**  
Adam Linn

**Program Coordinator**  
Crisbelly Medina Adames, MBA

**Membership and Advocacy Manager**  
Noël Schutz, LCSW

## REGIONAL COORDINATORS

**Central Region**  
Jessica O'Neill, MSW

**Southeast Region**  
Melissa B. Dawson, LICSW

**Northeast Region**  
Beth Morrison, LCSW

**Pioneer Valley and Berkshire Regions**  
Jeff Schrenzel, PhD

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2020–2021

**President**  
Sarah Coughlin, LICSW, LADC-1

**Vice President Membership & Diversity**  
Jennifer Valenzuela, MPH, LICSW

**Vice President Budget & Finance**  
Stephanie Small, LCSW

**Secretary**  
Shana Seidenberg, LICSW

**Greater Boston Region**  
Kristin Beville, MPH, LICSW  
Melisa Canuto, LICSW  
Allison Scobie-Carroll, MBA, LICSW

**At Large**  
Laflyn Thompson Wilson, MSW, LSW  
Sarah Wright, LICSW, CDP

**Berkshire Region**  
Marianne Yoshioka, PhD, MBA, LCSW

**Central Region**  
Pamela Chamorro, LICSW

**Northeast Region**  
Lisa Johnson, PhD, MSW

**Pioneer Valley Region**  
Robert Kersting, PhD, MSW, ACSW

**Southeast Region**  
Kevin Terrill, LICSW

**MSW Student Representative**  
Mae Petti

**BSW Student Representative**  
Domingas Lopes

# Continuing Education

While we had to postpone Symposium and cancel LEAD as a result of the pandemic, we worked to quickly adapt our continuing education program offerings to bring you timely, relevant, and affordable webinars and virtual conferences.



In January, Sarah Coughlin, Board President, moderated a panel discussion featuring Nina Aronoff, David Corbie, Anjali Mitra, and Iván Espinoza-Madrigal

## MLK Forum on Racial Justice

In January, we hosted our 6th Annual MLK Forum on Racial Justice where we explored the intersection of environmental justice and racial justice through a social work lens. The MLK Forum on Racial Justice is always a free continuing education program for all social workers. The 2020 Forum was made possible in partnership with the Boston University School of Social Work.

## Nursing Home Conference & School Social Work Conference

Both of these specialized annual conferences were brought virtual this year. The focus of each conference, which normally takes a full year to plan, were quickly shifted to meet the moment and provide social workers in elder care and school settings with desperately needed information, resources, and tools to provide effective care to their constituencies.

## Moving Toward Anti-Racism Conference

Recognizing the impact that schools of social work have on shaping the next generation of social work practitioners, we co-hosted a full-day anti-racism conference in August with the Greater Boston Association of Black Social Workers geared toward administrators, staff, and faculty from schools of social work across MA. The more than 60 attendees heard from keynote Marianne Yoshioka, Dean, Smith School for Social Work, a panel of deans and directors from social work programs across the state, Simmons School of Social Work professor Johnnie Hamilton-Mason, and others to strategize how to integrate anti-racist practices into their insitutions, curricula, classrooms, and research.

## Webinars

Collectively, our Chapter and regional staff hosted more than 30 webinars, each worth 1.5 CEUs, bringing you topical and affordable continuing education programming covering everything from social isolation to grief and loss to legislative and political advocacy and much more. One of our most popular webinar offerings was a wellness workshop for BIPOC social workers led by Dr. Wendy Champagnie Williams from Bridgewater State School of Social Work. Through our webinar series alone we were able to offer social workers 45 CEUs in 2020.



**National Association of Social Workers**, Massachusetts Chapter, 11 Beacon Street, Suite 510, Boston, MA 02108  
chapter.naswma@socialworkers.org | www.naswma.org | Phone: 617-227-9635 | Fax: 617-227-9877

**Facebook:** NASW-MA Chapter **Twitter:** @NASWMA **Instagram:** @masocialworkers **LinkedIn:** NASW Massachusetts Chapter

## CAREER SERVICES

# New Technology Skills for a New Job in the New Year

## Elyse Pipitone, LCSW

If the year 2020 has taught us anything, it is resilience. This positive trait needs to extend to job searches and career transitions—during the pandemic and beyond. Job seekers will need to be flexible, adaptable, and willing to learn new skills in order to navigate a more virtual employment landscape. This is especially true when it comes to technology.

Career leaders believe that even after the pandemic ends, hiring and employment practices will continue to have virtual components. Employers will still allow some or all of their staff to work remotely, including clinicians providing teletherapy and case managers offering supportive services online. Most hiring managers will continue to hold video job interviews via Zoom and other virtual services. Many events, including professional development trainings and conferences, will continue taking place online to keep business expenses low.

To meet the increased usage of and demand for online resources, Google, LinkedIn, and other technology companies are offering free access to myriad tools and trainings. There are options for individuals at all levels of computer literacy, whether you are already computer savvy, or you avoid using email and the internet whenever possible. A sampling of offerings appears below.

To start, brush up your virtual meeting skills with instructional videos from **Zoom** and **Google Meet**. Learn how to look and sound your best, whether you are participating in a video interview or networking event, meeting with clients or coworkers, or hosting a presentation or training. Visit the Zoom Help Center at [support.zoom.us](https://support.zoom.us), and Google Meet's support center at [support.google.com](https://support.google.com).

**Google** offers a wide variety of free tutorials to help individuals get the most out of their computer, via Grow with Google ([grow.google/job-seekers](https://grow.google/job-seekers)). You can learn how to successfully transition to remote work at [grow.google/remotework](https://grow.google/remotework), and access a variety of Google tricks and tips for job search at [g.co/applieddigitalskills](https://g.co/applieddigitalskills).

*Job seekers will need to be flexible, adaptable, and willing to learn new skills in order to navigate a more virtual employment landscape.*

**GCF Learn Free**, at [learnfree.org](https://learnfree.org), offers a wealth of self-guided, user-friendly tutorials. In its Technology section, you can learn how to navigate various Microsoft Office programs, discover the basics of using a computer mouse and email, and discover tips for internet safety. Its Work section features information on job search, applying for jobs, and career planning.

**LinkedIn** and **Microsoft** have teamed up to offer numerous job search tools at <https://opportunity.linkedin.com/jobs>. These include a downloadable Job Search Guide with hyperlinks to resources and online trainings, and—for those considering a career change—a new, interactive Career Explorer tool to determine how your skills can transfer to a potential career path.

**SkillBase**, an initiative of the Project on Workforce at Harvard University, will help you learn practical skills for future or current jobs through on-demand videos. Topics include how to create a stand-out



Elyse Pipitone, LCSW

resume and LinkedIn profile, and how to craft an “elevator pitch” that can be used in interviews or networking. Visit SkillBase at [skillbase.hks.harvard.edu/learningpathways](https://skillbase.hks.harvard.edu/learningpathways).

**The Boston Public Library's Kirstein Business Center** offers a number of free webinars each month for job hunters, small business owners, and entrepreneurs. Topics range from “Jumpstart Your Career” to “Making Your Website Work for You.” Review the center's full list of services and sign up for the training events newsletter at [bpl.org/services-central-library/kblic](https://bpl.org/services-central-library/kblic).

**MassHire Downtown Boston**, the largest of the Commonwealth's career centers, offers several free webinars each month, including “Networking While Social Distancing” and “Virtual/Video Interviewing.” Visit [masshiredowntownboston.org](https://masshiredowntownboston.org) for details.

No matter which technology resources you choose based on your needs and interests, you are wisely investing your time and energy toward a new position or career. 🌱

*Do you have a career-related question you would like answered? Need help with your resume, cover letter, or job search? What other career topics would you like to see addressed in Social Work Voice? Let me know at [epipitone.naswma@socialworkers.org](mailto:epipitone.naswma@socialworkers.org).*



Employment

**Community Services Coordinator—Town of Boxborough.** Community Services Coordinator. The CSC provides referrals and programming supporting residents in need of social services. Link to Complete Advertisement: <https://www.boxborough-ma.gov/Jobs.aspx?UniqueID=98&From=All&CommunityJobs=False&JobID=Community-Services-Coordinator-9> Resume and cover letter by 1/29/21 to: Boxborough Town Administrator, 29 Middle Rd., Boxborough, MA 01719 or by e-mail: [cmahoney@boxborough-ma.gov](mailto:cmahoney@boxborough-ma.gov). AA/EOE.

**Employee Assistance Program Counselor—Mass General Brigham.** As a not-for-profit organization, Mass General Brigham is committed to supporting patient care, research, teaching, and service to the community by leading innovation across our system. We are hiring an Employee Assistance Program Counselor to join our team of clinicians providing employee assistance services to staff, employees, and their household members across Mass General Brigham, and to the employees of all affiliated client companies that have arranged for EAP services. These services include clinical assessment, short term counseling and referral, establishment of community linkages and a provider network, case monitoring and follow-up. Apply: <https://partners.taleo.net/careersection/jobdetail.ftl?job=3139892&lang=en>

**LICSW—Westside Behavioral Health.** FFS position in a busy, well established, multidisciplinary private group practice south of Boston. CURRENTLY WORKING REMOTELY. Assessment and therapy with individuals, couples and families. Great collegial support and collaboration. Competitive reimbursement. Flexible hours. No on call responsibilities. Conveniently located off of Rte 24 in renovated space. Sick time benefit. At least 3 years post Masters experience preferred. To learn more about us please visit our website at [www.westsidebh.com](http://www.westsidebh.com). Michael Weiner, LICSW: [westsidebh@comcast.net](mailto:westsidebh@comcast.net).

**Psychotherapist / Licensed Clinician—Clinical Alliance Services, LLC.** Clinical Alliance Services, LLC is a small group practice serving Boston and Cambridge. We offer individual and couples therapy to adult and college-aged populations. Our model is heavily influenced by psychodynamic, psychoanalytic and relational treatment approaches. Our psychotherapists are also trained in CBT and other validated treatment approaches. Candidates should have solid psychodynamic and / or cognitive-behavioral outpatient experience with adults and demonstrated multicultural competence. We offer competitive compensation, excellent colleagues and beautiful office settings. Part-time (20+ hours/week) and full-time positions are available. Health insurance (BCBS HMO/PPO) and 401K with employer match available to all employees. Submit CV and cover letter to [jobs@clinicalallianceservices.com](mailto:jobs@clinicalallianceservices.com)/(617) 307-4470.

**Mental Health Therapist (Full-Time/Part-Time, Remote Option)—And Still We Rise, LLC.** A just and equitable group practice that values community, cultivating consciousness, decolonizing mental health-care, and providing quality mental health services to womxn and BIPOC folx. Contact: [info@AndStillWeRise.us](mailto:info@AndStillWeRise.us) or [www.AndStillWeRise.us](http://www.AndStillWeRise.us).

**Behavioral Health Clinician—Boston Public Health Commission.** Boston Public Health Commission has an exciting new position available for a Behavioral Health Clinician, either an LICSW or LMHC, with experience in and passion for maternal health. This grant-funded position will join our Boston Healthy Start Initiative that aims to eliminate inequities in birth outcomes for Black families. The position includes direct service to pregnant/post-partum parents and coordinating trainings and community education. For more information, go to [www.bphc.org/careers](http://www.bphc.org/careers) and search for Req Number 1322. Position requires Boston residency.

Office Space

**Arlington.** Sunny first floor offices available full or part-time. Common waiting room and WIFI is provided. Professional building close to public transportation. Contact: [austinp1@hotmail.com](mailto:austinp1@hotmail.com) or call 781-646-5726.

**Cambridge.** Attractive PT/FT offices in Porter Square suite. Steps from T, minutes from Davis and Harvard, on main bus lines. Shared waiting room, clinician breakroom, and bathrooms. Air purifiers, Wi-Fi, printer/scanner, office supplies, utilities, and cleaning fees all included. Suitable for teletherapy or in-person work. No minimum hours required. Contact: Marianne Cook at [portersquaretherapysublet@gmail.com](mailto:portersquaretherapysublet@gmail.com).

**Concord.** Newly renovated, COVID compliant, 1500 square foot business condo at intersection of Rt 2 and Rt 62. Large waiting room, 3 offices, group room, office supplies including printer and shredder, heat/AC, parking, internet, weekly cleaning. Half week, full week, half day, full day available. Rent entire space or single office to grow/continue your private practice. Contact Norah: 978-505-8900.

**Lexington.** Two full time private offices in renovated/redecorated Condo suites at desirable Cushman Place, 76 Bedford St. Beautifully furnished shared waiting room and kitchenette area. File storage in basement. 24/7 access, handicap compliant, elevator and free abundant parking. Easy commute to/from Rte.2, Rte.128, and Rte.3. Priced at \$760 and \$840 plus electric. Contact: Allen Elgart, [anelgart@rcn.com](mailto:anelgart@rcn.com), 781-254-2888.

**Millbury (Central Mass).** Two full time office spaces available for monthly rent in a three-office suite. Fully furnished, 24/7 access, strong wifi, common waiting area, handicap access, free parking, water, tissues, refreshments, all utilities and cleaning services included. Referral sharing. Free website advertisement. Just show up and see clients! Contact Alison: 508-389-3138 or [alisonperrylicsw@gmail.com](mailto:alisonperrylicsw@gmail.com). <https://www.worcestercounseling.com>

**Wellesley Hills.** Newly renovated furnished professional office. Established group of independent clinicians looking for clinician to rent premium space in a 5-office psychotherapy suite in Wellesley Hills. Rent by the month is \$1300 including electricity and internet. Newly installed ventilation system boasts ultraviolet filtration and fresh air circulated into the suite. A large window with good light makes this a welcoming space for psychotherapeutic work. There are two waiting areas, entrances and exits for improved patient privacy. There is ample public and some private parking. The building is next to the Charles River and steps from restaurants and Newton Lower Falls. Please contact Dr. Len Sommer 781-237-6550 ext. 2.

**Worcester.** Beautiful, bright 2nd floor, 2 vacant office spaces, spacious psychotherapy office for social distancing, available on Converse Street by UMASS Memorial, furnished, waiting room, ample parking, public transportation. \$10/hour. Contact: [zaza@zsakhattherapy.com](mailto:zaza@zsakhattherapy.com).

CE Programs & Training

**FREE, Virtual, Accredited Cognitive Processing Therapy Workshop and Consultation Opportunities.** Home Base is offering rare, free, state of the art training opportunities for mental health clinicians licensed in Massachusetts. The trainings involve a 4 day virtual workshop in Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT). Attendees will also participate in six months of weekly consultation zoom meetings to support implementation of CPT in their clinical practice. CPT Virtual Workshop Details: Dates: January 12-15, 2021 OR January 26-29, 2021 Format: Virtual Tuition: FREE Credits: Continuing education credits will be provided upon completion of workshop training and consultation. Contact: Emma Morrison, Assistant Director of Education, Home Base, [emorrison4@partners.org](mailto:emorrison4@partners.org).

Supervision & Services

**Clinical Supervision or Consultation.** Lynn Sanford, LICSW \$50 for LCSW; \$100 for LICSW; \$175 for agencies. Per hour. 45 years of experience in trauma-informed social work. Contact: [lynkochava@aol.com](mailto:lynkochava@aol.com) or 617-699-1511 [www.lynnnsanford.com](http://www.lynnnsanford.com).

**Clinical Supervision Available!** LICSW with 10 years supervisory experience available for the following: exam prep, client engagement and motivational interviewing, case consultation and diagnostic formulation, care management, CBT, trauma informed care, grief and loss and holistic approaches to care. \$70-\$90 an hour. Contact: Mary Baveghems, LICSW (860-377-5454) [mbaveghems@yahoo.com](mailto:mbaveghems@yahoo.com).

Riverside Community Care

Leading the Way in Behavioral Healthcare & Human Services



We make a difference—  
*in your community and in your career.*

Become part of an inclusive, award-winning, and respectful community that values and encourages different perspectives.

We deliver innovative, compassionate, and integrated behavioral healthcare and human services throughout Massachusetts.

Now Hiring:

- Adult Psychiatrist – Outpatient Center
- Clinical Supervisor – Adult Community Clinical Services
- Team Leader – Adult Community Clinical Services
- Clinician – DMH Flexible-Support Services
- Salaried Dual-Diagnosis Clinician
- Emergency Services Clinicians
- Brief-Treatment Therapist
- Senior Intensive Care Coordinator
- Intensive Care Coordinator
- Outreach Crisis Clinicians - Pandemic Crisis Counseling Program
- Home-Based Family Services Clinical Supervisor
- Home-Based Family Therapist
- Substance-Use Clinician
- Fee -for-Service Clinicians
- LICSWs, LMHCs, LMFTs, and more...

Apply online: [www.riversidecc.org/careers](http://www.riversidecc.org/careers)



**MEDICAL BILLING AND COLLECTION EXPERTS**

Lisa Shestack 617-828-6466 | Sharon Galvin 508-369-2551

Billing / Revenue Management Services  
Customized solutions for solo or group practices  
Mental health billing – our specialty

**Reduce or Eliminate**

- Phone system costs
- Document storage
- Supplies and forms
- Software upgrade fees
- Computer hardware
- Management costs

**BE IN THE BLACK...NOT IN THE DARK!**

Mention this ad to receive free set up and \$250 off first invoice



**MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER**

11 Beacon Street, Suite 510  
Boston, MA 02108

Vol. 4, No. 1 ■ January/February 2021



## ***SPECIAL OFFER FOR PRIVATE PRACTITIONERS!***

**BECOME A MEMBER FOR ONLY ~~\$225~~ \$95/YEAR**

Therapy Matcher is receiving \$50,000 from the Massachusetts state budget! This is enabling us to *reduce* our fee for the upcoming membership year, which runs from June 2021 to July 2022.

- *Membership can begin as early as May 2021*
- *Contact us NOW to be registered and ready to go!*

***We have clients ready to be referred to you.***

Let Therapy Matcher expertly match new clients to your practice. Join us and receive a full year of pre-screened, personalized referrals.

**\*Special Limited Time Offer for Non-NASW Members\***

Join NASW today and receive a *free* Therapy Matcher membership now through June 2021

**Visit: [naswma.org/tmpprovider](https://naswma.org/tmpprovider) | Email: [Info@therapymatcher.org](mailto:Info@therapymatcher.org)**

