2016 MA-Chapter Award Recipients

Greatest Contribution to Social Work Practice
Michael Hubner, LICSW

Lifetime Achievement
Janel Lucas, PhD, LICSW

Public Citizen of the Year
Mass Incarceration Working Group of the First Parish Unitarian Universalist of Arlington

Greatest Contribution to Social Work Education
Kathryn Basham, PhD, LICSW

Emerging Leader
Patty Underwood, LICSW

Greatest Contribution to Social Work Practice
Michael Hubner, LICSW

Michael Hubner is not only an exceptional clinician, but an extraordinary thinker, program planner, developer, operations manager, and writer as well. Michael has devoted her social work career to healthcare, having worked in leadership roles – many of which begin with ‘Chief’ and ‘Director” - at three of the finest Harvard teaching hospitals and healthcare institutions in the country: Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Brigham and Women’s Hospital, and the Dana Farber Cancer Institute. She received her undergraduate degree and Masters in Social Work from Smith College, her Masters of Theological Studies from Harvard Divinity School, and a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study in Health Care Administration from Simmons.

Michael’s career began over 30 years ago as an oncology social worker at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. She became co-director of the Dana Farber/Brigham and Women’s Cancer Center Social Work Practice. Under her direction, Michael’s team developed the Geriatric Inpatient Unit which provides clinically sensitive and appropriate care to frail and chronically ill elders. Called the ACOVE Unit – for Acute Care of Vulnerable Elders – this groundbreaking program serves as a model across the country. Michael’s clinical skills, dynamic leadership, rigorous intellect, practical effectiveness, and profound empathy represent the highest levels of social work practice at both the micro and macro levels. In 2013 saw the Creation of the Annual Michael K. Hubner Oncology Social Work Lectureship, at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

A life-long learner, Michael supervised, mentored and taught social workers as well as other health care providers. A nationally recognized and sought-after speaker, she would leave audiences in awe resulting from the intellectual depth and lyrical quality of her words.

Michael Hubner’s career has been a reflection of herself…a combination of creative intellectualism, and practical effectiveness. She eliminates barriers, finds solutions, and infuses hope. We are beyond proud to present her with NASW’s Greatest Contribution to Social Work Practice Award.
**Lifetime Achievement**

**Janel Lucas, PhD, LICSW**

Dr. Janel Lucas has been a positive force for social work as a clinician, an administrator, an author and speaker, an educator, a mentor, and by working for social justice. She received her MSW and PhD in social work from Simmons College School of Social Work, and has a Postgraduate Certificate in Human Service Management from Boston University School of Social Work. Dr. Lucas is currently an Associate Professor at Lesley University, where, in addition to teaching and advising, she developed an online hybrid Human Service program. Her emphasis has been in educating students and professionals about the African American experience as well as other disenfranchised groups such as criminal offenders. This is evidenced in her numerous presentations and publications, such as her chapter in Human Services in the 21st Century, entitled, “Strategies for Increasing Agency Multiculturalism,” her PhD dissertation “African-American Women in Social Work: Explorations Regarding ‘Goodness of Fit,’” “Teaching Ethics Through Multicultural Lenses,” and “Teaching the African-American Experience.”

A consummate professional, Janel Lucas has worked tirelessly as a member and chair of Simmons Alumnae Board, co-chair of NASW-MA Chapter’s Committee on Racial & Ethnic Affairs, and as member of the National Association of Black Social Workers. She also represented the profession as a member of the Board of Directors for Hawthorne Youth Center in Roxbury.

The history of Dr. Lucas’ work spans forty-two years. She has proven to be a strong leader, teacher, and advocate. She has been, is, and will continue to provide an outstanding model for the profession.

We are proud to present the Lifetime Achievement Award to Dr. Janel Lucas.

**Public Citizen of the Year**

**Mass Incarceration Working Group of the First Parish Unitarian Universalist of Arlington**

Mass Incarceration Working Group of the First Parish Unitarian Universalist of Arlington has been a leader in what has become a burgeoning movement for ending mass incarceration in Massachusetts. More and more people are realizing that our system of mass incarceration is a moral, financial, and practical failure. A growing movement is seeking to change laws, practices, and attitudes.

This working group of volunteers has contributed significantly to the movement for criminal justice reform. They have produced an excellent motivational and educational resource called: Ending Mass Incarceration in Massachusetts An Evolving Handbook. They are currently offering a year-long series on restorative justice, as well as other meetings and programs which cover a broad range of issues, including the many new or redrafted bills that need attention to gain passage. The meetings facilitate inspired networking to energize and inform the growing effort to push for change.

Recently, they held a daylong workshop on “Strategies to End Mass Incarceration,” with Representative Sean Garballey which was attended by two hundred people and featured seven bills that had recently been filed at the State House.

First Parish Arlington has taken a lead locally on issues of mass incarceration and racial justice, while also cultivating a strong relationship with the Arlington police. In 2013 it participated in an interfaith gun buyback program, and last December it hosted a town-wide Black Lives Matter vigil on its front lawn. In September it published an open letter praising the Arlington Police Department for its use of restorative justice, non-punitive outreach to people with substance abuse issues and their families, and a mental health clinician on its staff.

The **Public Citizen of the Year Award** recognizes non-social workers who have made exceptional contributions to human services: promoting and advocating for the values of social work in the area of public services.
Greatest Contribution to Social Work Education

Kathryn Basham, PhD, LICSW

Kathryn Basham, Ph.D., LICSW is the quintessential social work educator who has influenced generations of students, colleagues and clients through her extraordinary skills as teacher, administrator, supervisor, author, presenter, clinician, and scholar. At Smith College School for Social Work, Dr. Basham assumes multiple roles and responsibilities including professor, and editor of Smith College Studies in Social Work. She has an impressive list of publications in professional journals, years of conference presentations, and has coauthored four books with members of the Institute of Medicine at the National Academies of Science.

As Co-Director of the Ph.D. Program and Editor of the Smith College Studies in Social Work, Kathryn Basham engages in research, writing, clinical social work practice and education related to the effects of deployment and combat stress on the re-integration of service members, Veterans and their families. In recognition of her pioneering work, she has been appointed to three congressionally mandated committees with the Institute of Medicine at the National Academies of Science charged to explore issues related to enhancing the mental health treatment of military and Veteran families.

Dr. Basham’s academic work has always been accompanied by a diverse private practice where she works with children, adults, and families. She has demonstrated, for hundreds of students, the models of excellence in social work practice, research, publication, and advocacy.

A remarkable teacher and mentor with a deep theory base, rigorous standards, the capacity to integrate theory with practice, absolute attention to diversity, and a history of versatility with individuals, families, groups and couples, Kathryn Basham is accessible, and creative in her teaching… and has great humor as well… all making her the exemplary recipient of NASW’s Award for Greatest Contribution to Social Work Education.

Emerging Leader

Patty Underwood, LICSW

Patty Underwood graduated from Boston University School of Social Work in 2007 and immediately served on the board of the Massachusetts Chapter of the International Association for the Advancement of Social Work with Groups, where she is now its President. Since 2009, Patty has taught courses on group leadership, social work practice, and clinical methods. Much of her clinical work has been with the significantly impaired. At Riverside Community Care, she has worked with clients with chronic mental illness and alcohol and drug problems. Her work with clients who are compulsive hoarders similarly requires patience and unusual interpersonal skills and clinical expertise.

Patty has made conference presentations on topics such as Group Leadership and Compulsive Hoarding, and has co-authored a text on group treatment for clients with Hoarding Disorder. In addition she is a valued clinician, an effective teacher of MSW students, a clinical field supervisor, researcher, innovator, President of the Board for the International Association for the Advancement of Social Work with Groups, and serves on the Boston University School of Social Work Dean’s Advisory Board… all of which speaks to an unusual leader with exceptional energy, talent and dedication.

Patty has a wonderful interactive style and strength-based perspective. She demonstrates appropriate professional boundaries, fluid management of crises with an exceptional ability to connect with diverse groups of clients and families, students, and colleagues, without judgment. She is creative and innovative, translating her ideas into realities. Patty identifies where needs exist in the social work field, and through her leadership and creativity develops and implements real-world strategies to address them.

Patty Underwood is already the recipient of the Riverside Community Care Outstanding Service Award, the Boston University School of Social Work Group Work Student Award, and the Association for the Advancement of Social Work with Groups Herb Schneider Memorial Group Work Student of the Year Award. NASW enthusiastically presents Patty Underwood with its 2016 Emerging Leader Award.

CONGRATULATIONS

2015 NASW-MA Chapter Awards Recipients!

Our best wishes to an extraordinary group of Social Workers.

Your work is awe-inspiring!

Sincerely, NASW-MA Chapter Staff and Elected Leadership