

2022 Social Work Day on the Hill



THE TIME IS RIGHT
FOR SOCIAL WORK

March 30, 2022

Dear Social Work Day on the Hill Attendee:

The Tennessee Chapter of NASW welcomes you to the

2022 Social Work Day on the Hill: The Time Is Right for Social Work.

Our theme reflects the importance of social work today. It recognizes we are one of the fastest growing professions as more people are entering the field because the life-affirming services that social workers provide are needed now more than ever.

*Social Work Day on the Hill is a special opportunity for you to practice and learn more about public policy issues effecting our profession and our clients. We hope today is also when you share with Tennessee legislators **The Time is Right for Social Work** handout that includes information on what social workers do and asks their help and support on a few key policy issues.*

Attendees at prior events have used similar materials to successfully advocate:

- *to ensure only persons with social work degrees could use the title social worker,*
- *to pass multi-level social worker licensure,*
- *to restore important funding for mental health services, and*
- *to support recognition of the important role of social workers in public schools.*

The time is right for social workers and social work students to make a difference again in 2022!.

We hope you have a great time today and that you use Social Work Day on the Hill as a stepping stone to continued involvement in working for your clients and your profession through the public policy process.

Best regards,

*Brian Williams, LAPSW
NASW-TN President*

*Karen L. Franklin, LAPSW
NASW-TN Executive Director*

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Memphis

Angelica Jacques
Memphis

Conference Volunteers

Policy Presentation Judges

Bo Walker, Moccasin Bend
Paula Foster, Open Table Nashville

Lisa Primm, Disability Rights TN
Lindsey O'Connell, LCSW

Lauren Hopper Lee, MSW

NASW - TN Staff

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Executive Director

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Kristen Keefer
UTCMSW MSW
Intern

Hailey Calhoun
UT Chattanooga
MSW Intern

University Partners for 2022 Social Work Day on the Hill

Austin Peay State University

Belmont University

East TN State University

King University

Lincoln Memorial University

Lipscomb University

Middle TN State University

Southern Adventist University

Tennessee State University

Tennessee Wesleyan University

Trevecca Nazarene University

Union University

University of Tennessee Chattanooga

University of TN College of Social Work

University of Tennessee at Martin

University of Memphis



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Table of Contents

.....

Agenda for the Day.....Page 5

Tips for Effective Legislative Visits.....Page 6

2022 NASW-TN Chapter Legislative Priorities...Page 12

Student Policy Poster ContestPage 15

2022 NASW-TN Award Winners.....Page 20

Members of the Tennessee General Assembly.....Page 29

Conference Supporter Ads.....Page 35

Agenda for the Day

Social Work Day on the Hill March 30, 2022 Agenda *Times are CST*



THE TIME IS RIGHT
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- 7:45-8:15** Log in to Platform
8:15-8:30 Opening Comments
Brian N. Williams, NASW-TN Chapter President and Event Presider
8:30-9:45 Policy Makers Panel

Lindsey O’Connell, NASW-TN’s Legislative Committee Chair, will be our panel facilitator

Our panelists are:

Keith Ekhtator, EdD, LCSW, LSSW, CCTP

School Social Work Coordinator with Metro Nashville Public Schools, Adjunct Faculty at
TN State University and NASW-TN Board Member

Lisa Primm, LAPSW

Executive Director of Disability Rights Tennessee

Ann-Marie Buchanan, PhD, LMSW

Director of the Social Work Program at Lincoln Memorial University, Member of the
Tennessee Social Work Licensure Board, and recently elected to serve on the Board of
Directors of ASWB (the Association of Social Work Boards)

Kristen Keely-Dinger, LAPSW

President and CEO, The Healing Trust

- 9:45-10:00** Stretch Break
10:00-10:45 BSW Policy Presentations
Special Guest: Representative Harold Love, Jr.
10:45-11:00 Stretch Break
11:00-11:45 MSW Policy Presentations
11:45-12:15 Lunch Break
12:15-1:00 Presentation of State Awards and Policy Presentation Winners
1:00 – 1:15 Closing remarks for virtual Social Work Day on the Hill;

1:15 Concurrent Activities

*Meet with Legislators and discuss what social workers do and issues of concern
(Schedule virtual or in-person visits in advance)

*Observe Legislative Committee Meetings in person or virtually

at <https://wapp.capitol.tn.gov/apps/schedule/>

*Capitol Tours (Schedule in advance)

at <https://www.capitol.tn.gov/about/capitolvisit.html>

Thank You for Taking Time to Make a Difference!

Helpful Tips for Making Virtual Legislative Visits

Over 600 social work students, faculty and practitioners are participating in the 2022 Social Work Day on the Hill on March 30th, and we can make a difference. Our formal program ends at 1:15 on Wednesday, but an important part of your public policy practice and learning can occur in legislative visits you have scheduled later that afternoon or the following week.

5 Key reasons to meet with your legislators!

1. Educate legislators about what social workers do and about your University's social work program
2. Share with legislators about key issues of concern to social workers
3. Practice your policy skills
4. Start and/or continue to build relationships with key decision-makers in Tennessee
5. Experience the excitement of working together to make a difference on issues impacting social work and clients

Legislators have been impressed by the number of attendees at Social Work Day on the Hill when we were meeting in person. It's even more important when we are meeting virtually for attendees to schedule visits to let your legislators know you are participating in Social Work Day on the Hill. Below are steps you can use to schedule either virtual or in-person visits.

Steps for scheduling virtual and in-person legislative visits:

- 1) In advance:
 - A. You can find the contact information for every legislator and their staff member [here for the Senate](https://www.capitol.tn.gov/senate/members/) (https://www.capitol.tn.gov/senate/members/) and [here for the House](https://www.capitol.tn.gov/house/members/) (https://www.capitol.tn.gov/house/members/)
 - B. Call or email asking if you can set up a meeting with the legislator. Give general times that work for you but prepare to be flexible – they are very busy. State the reason you wish to meet including that you are participating in the virtual Social Work Day on the Hill on March 30. Our virtual schedule ends at 1:15 p.m. and you can schedule visits later that day or ask to set a time the following week.
 - C. If in a group, try to have at least one member who is a constituent of the legislator. (Due to office size we suggest limiting in-person group visits to 3 – 5 persons unless the legislator, or staff member, is planning for a larger group.) Constituents are the voices most important to a public servant. In the email and/or phone call mention that you live in their district.
 - To find out who your legislator is, visit [this link](https://wapp.capitol.tn.gov/Apps/fmlv3/districts.aspx) (https://wapp.capitol.tn.gov/Apps/fmlv3/districts.aspx) and enter your address and zip code.
 - D. Once a time is agreed upon send a brief confirmation and meeting link (if virtual) and thank them in advance.
- 2) If you are unable to speak to the legislator directly, ask to speak with a staff member who works on the issues you will discuss.
 - A. Staff members are just as important to your advocacy efforts as legislators. Whenever you interact with a legislative staff member remember to be polite, gracious, and respectful.

Prepare for the meeting:

NASW-TN has prepared a special handout for Social Work Day on the Hill attendees on the Social Work profession and a few key issues before the legislature the week of March 30. Familiarize yourself with ***The Time is Right for Social Work*** handout prior to the meeting, and email a copy to the legislator the day before your meeting. We have one of the largest annual days on the hill of any Tennessee organization. Speaking with a unified voice on these issues is important to impact the issues addressed in the handout and to strengthen our work on numerous other issues.

We expect some groups may want to also discuss an issue addressed in a university policy presentation. If you address issues beyond those on the handout please be sure and ask legislators to take a specific action on the legislation you are discussing. (Vote for or against Bill Number)

During the Meeting

- 1) Make sure to keep the call brief by sticking to one or a very small number of topics and always be courteous. Your meeting will likely only last 15-30 minutes, so it is important to stay focused
- 2) Identify yourself as a social work student as well as a constituent living in their district (if this is true). Share with the legislator how many social work students and faculty are attending Social Work Day on the Hill from your university (if you know this information).
- 3) Remind the legislator about ***The Time is Right for Social Work*** handout. Highlight the “We Ask For Your Help” points.
- 4) Share why these issues are important to you and/or your community. (Personalize the information NASW-TN has provided.)
 - DO NOT use technical language or jargon. Keep your explanation easy to understand and to the point.
- 5) Ask the legislator directly “can I count on your vote on these issues?”
 - They may not answer this directly, and that is okay. DO NOT pressure them on this point.
- 6) After the meeting, follow up with a personal email that reiterates your call and thank them again for their time.

Important reminders and general tips:

- Be on time for meetings, no matter how you connect.
- Be positive and friendly.
- Do your homework before the meeting, about the legislator and the issue.
- Be prepared to answer questions about the ***The Time is Right for Social Work*** handout. If you don't know the answer say, “I don't know off the top of my head, but I will find out and send that information to you today.”
- Provide reliable information.
- If you say you will provide additional information, be sure to get back to them in a timely manner (within 24 hours or the timeframe you've agreed upon). Email NASW-TN's Executive Director, Karen Franklin (kfranklin.naswtn@socialworkers.org) or our Legislative Liaison, Stewart Clifton (stewart@stewartclifton.com) for additional information.
- The handout lists NASW-TN contacts for additional information. If you discuss other topics, provide the names of the people who can be resources and give additional information.
- Follow up with a thank you letter.
- DO NOT:
 - Overstay
 - Threaten
 - Burn bridges
 - Attack the Legislator or his/her positions
 - Ridicule government or politics
 - Be partisan

Remember: there are no permanent friends or permanent enemies in politics. Do not burn any bridges that you may need to walk over later.

*If you are unable to schedule a meeting we encourage you to send a courteous email to the legislator with ***The Time is Right for Social Work*** handout. We suggest you copy and paste the “We Ask for Your Help” points in your cover note.*



Ten Tips on Visits with Legislators (These tips are also for future efforts beyond SWDOH)

- 1. Make an appointment beforehand.** Flexibility is important. Legislators have many demands on their time, sometimes without notice. In-person meetings are the best although zoom meetings work out well too.
- 2. Build a relationship before you need the legislator's vote or action:**
 - Identify yourself as a group member/representative and act accordingly.
 - Send a mailed note or email when an official does something worth noting positively, such as casting a vote you agree with or receiving an honor.
 - Introduce yourself when you see the elected official, whether at a school function, a trip to the store, or some other event. Any opportunity to build the relationship should be used.
 - Call and make an appointment to meet so you can get to know the decision-maker.
- 3. Do your homework on the decision-maker and issue.** Homework is best done before the test.
- 4. Meet with a staffer if the legislator is unavailable.** Sometimes meeting with a key staffer is almost as good as meeting with a legislator. Don't turn that down if offered.
- 5. Respect the decision-maker and the office.** You can disagree without threatening or disrespecting. (Respect does not mean like or agree with)
- 6. Provide short, clear information, without social work jargon.** No technical articles that go on for pages that they will likely not read. Best points in one pager or the verbal equivalent.
- 7. Don't overstay, threaten, burn bridges, attack the legislator for his/her record on your issue(s),** or criticize government or politics.
- 8. Know that there are no permanent friends or permanent enemies.** Today's opponent is tomorrow's ally. You can certainly be firm and reasonably passionate about your position, but you should never be hostile.
- 9. Set priorities and be focused.** Discuss one issue at a time. Ask for a vote on your position and try to get an answer but remember it's legitimate for elected officials to reserve judgment on a bill until they have had time to consider.
- 10. Thank the legislator for meeting with you.** After the visit, follow up with any information that you promised during the visit. When you leave the meeting, your work is often just beginning. Arrange for any unanswered questions to be addressed and for others to contact.

Prepared by Clifton Government Relations,

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Important Tennessee Government Facts You Probably Would Not Remember Even if You Had Been Paying Attention in Civics Class

You do not have to be an expert on the legislative process to be a part of that process. These facts and observations may help you become an effective part of the legislative process.

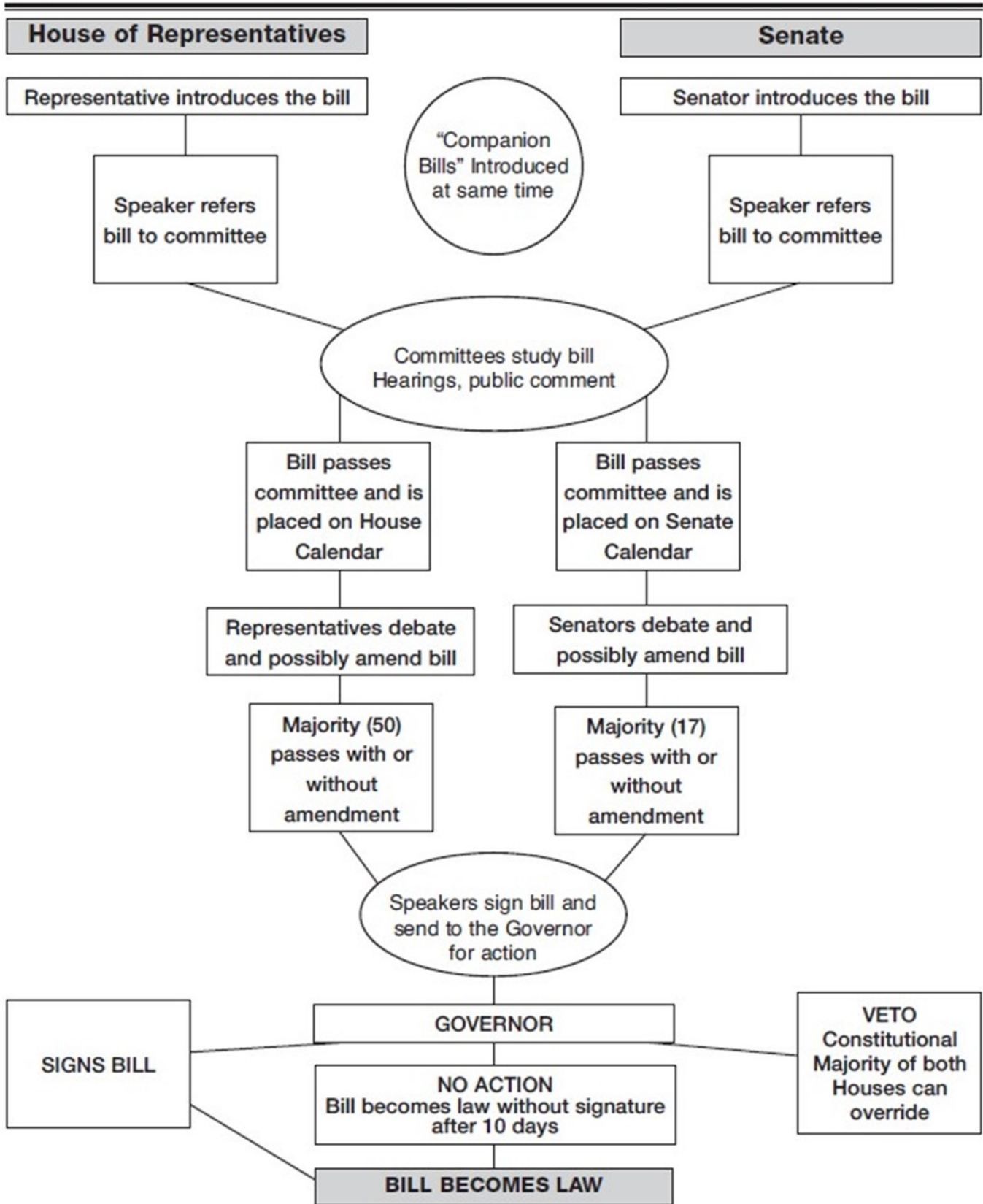
1. Tennessee's state legislature is known as the General Assembly.
2. The General Assembly can add, repeal or modify (amend) our existing laws. Together with the executive and judicial branches, the legislative branch is our state government.
3. The General Assembly consists of the Senate and the House of Representatives.
4. The Senate has 33 members who serve 4-year terms. The terms are staggered with half of the seats being up for election every two years. The Senate elects the Lieutenant Governor, also known as Speaker of the Senate, who appoints committees and committee officers.
5. The House has 99 members who serve 2-year terms.
6. The House elects the Speaker of the House. The Speaker appoints committees and committee officers.
7. The legislature meets annually from mid-January to *May and sometimes into June, depending on circumstances of politics and agendas.*
8. Legislators are part-time and are given limited staff. Pay is \$22,667 annually plus expenses.
9. Senate & House districts are population-based. Redistricting occurs after each federal census so a redistricting plan will be developed in 2022 (census data was late due to COVID).
10. Legislators have two primary roles, leading and representing. One can argue that these roles are often in conflict. For our purposes, if public opinion in the district agrees with your position then you obviously must remind Rep. Smith that he is first and foremost a representative of the people. If public opinion is against your position, then you must remind Sen. Smith that she was elected to be a leader and must vote her convictions.
11. Committees Rule! Bills are voted on in committees before they are considered by the full House or Senate. Bills die if they don't pass in committee and almost always pass the full House and Senate if they do pass in committee.
12. The Governor must be at least 30 years of age, a citizen of the United States, and a citizen of Tennessee seven years preceding his election.
13. The Governor's term is four years. Tennessee governors are limited to no more than two consecutive terms. The Governor is paid a salary of \$170,000 and is furnished an official residence and expenses for its operation.
14. The General Assembly has sole power to pass bills, but the Governor must receive every bill before it can become law. The Governor has the right to approve a bill by signing it into law; veto the bill with objections in writing; or fail to return a bill with objections during the ten-day period after it is presented -- then the bill will become law without the Governor's signature.

Changes in the Tennessee Legislators - Post 2020 Election

An unusually small number of new legislators were elected in 2020. Out of 33 Senators 2 were new. Out of 99 Representatives were new. The General Assembly is overwhelmingly Republican. The Senate has 27 Republicans and 6 Democrats., a net gain of 1 Democrat. The House has 73 Republicans and 26 Democrats. No change.

For more information, see www.capitol.tn.gov for the extremely useful state legislative web page. It includes brief legislative bios and photos, legislative calendars, bill search capacity by bill number and subject matter, and lots of other good stuff. You can view every committee meeting and every floor session as it happens and later by using this website. You can also find out who represents you.

How a Bill Becomes a Law in Tennessee



Source: TN General Assembly Website (2019)

The Time is Right for ACTION!



**Sign Up for Advocacy
Action Alerts!**

**Call to
Action**

**The new NASW-TN virtual Action Center
has officially launched!**

Follow these steps to Sign Up:

1. Go to www.naswtn.com
2. Under Advocacy, click Action Center
3. Login with the ID & password below
4. Enter your information under "Sign Up for Alerts"

ID: NASWTN

Password: Advocate2022

Action Center Features:

- Follow advocacy campaigns on issues impacting social workers and their clients.
- Respond to legislative alerts notifying you about active bills requiring support.
- Identify your lawmakers at the local, state, and federal levels.
- Personalize and send messages advocating on key NASW-TN policy issues to lawmakers.



NASW-TN 2022 Legislative Priority Issues

Active Priority Issues

The Time is Right for Social Work

Social workers have been providing essential services in our state for decades. Tennessee public, private and faith-based universities are training both baccalaureate and masters social workers in every major urban area of Tennessee and in programs from Memphis to Nashville, to Knoxville to Bristol -- and from Martin to Collegedale. Many of the graduates of these programs become licensed clinical social workers who are the largest group of mental health professionals in our state.

Social workers are everywhere people need help navigating life challenges. They contribute to interdisciplinary care teams in schools, hospitals, mental health centers, nonprofits, corporations, the military --- and in local, state and federal government. Many social work professionals also own private counseling and consultation practices.

NASW-TN is pleased to support these students and professionals.

Promoting Available and Appropriate Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse Services

NASW is committed to enhancing the well-being of people living with mental health and substance abuse conditions and in working towards increased access to appropriate services and interventions. We applaud the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services and TennCare Bureau for convening a Public Behavioral Health Workforce Group to review research, data, and strategies for addressing workforce challenges in publicly-funded mental health and substance abuse services. We encourage review of the [Public Behavioral Health Workforce Workgroup Report](#) and support the Governor including additional funding for a provider rate increase as an important step to address an identified strategy.

NASW-TN's efforts on the above priority will include working collaboratively with other consumer and professional groups including the Tennessee Association of Alcohol, Drug and other Addiction Services (TAADAS), Tennessee Coalition on Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, the Tennessee Pre-Arrest Diversion Coalition and the Tennessee Association of Mental Health Organizations (TAMHO). We will also work with the TASMIE coalition to exclude individuals with severe mental illness from the death penalty.

We know the importance of telehealth in serving clients during the pandemic and will continue to work for telehealth policies that benefit our members and the clients we assist.

Supporting Inclusion and Opportunities for All – Racial Justice

NASW-TN supports an inclusive society that provides opportunities for all, and in which racial, ethnic, social, sexual orientation, and gender differences and identities are valued and respected. NASW-TN opposes legislation that discriminates on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, color, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, political belief, religion, or mental or physical disability.

We support Governor Lee's budget recommendation to invest \$250 million to improve the physical infrastructure at Tennessee State University (TSU). The funding was recommended after a Legislative Committee report identified TSU did not receive Land-Grant funding due in prior years.

School Funding – Addressing Mental Health and Student Support Needs

NASW-TN appreciates the public input process initiated by the Governor as he considered a new school funding formula. One of the most often mentioned concerns during the public input process was the need for more student support personnel including those working in coordinated school health and as school counselors, school nurses, school social workers, and school psychologists. These professionals work together collaboratively to promote student success. Yet, the current BEP funding formula does not meet best practice ratios for school social workers, school counselors, school nurses and school psychologists. BEP funding for school social workers can also be allocated locally for other needs, and 2020 data illustrates 39% of school districts have no school social workers. As a new funding formula is considered we urge Tennessee to increase financial support for student support personnel, including school social workers.

NASW-TN 2022 Legislative Priority Issues

Partnership Issues

(NASW-TN will work with other organizations in monitoring these issues. Our legislative work on these issues may increase if we need to play a strategic role in these areas.)

Adoption and Foster Care

NASW believes that every child has a right to a permanent, continuous, and nurturing relationship with a parenting person or people who convey to the child an enduring sense of love and care. We believe public social policy on adoption and foster care should be evidenced-based and focus on the best interests of the child. NASW-TN will work with others to educate policy makers about evidenced-based practice in the area of foster care and adoption.

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

Social workers know that trauma during childhood can have critical implications throughout the lifespan. NASW-TN applauds the Building Strong Brains initiative and our statewide efforts to address Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and their impact on local communities. We will continue to support efforts to raise community awareness about the effects of adverse childhood experiences and to develop and implement strategies that will effectively prevent or counter ACEs.

Child Care and Early Childhood Education

NASW recognizes that all young children deserve excellent early care and education and those high quality early experiences make a difference in children's lifelong academic and social success. The Tennessee Chapter of NASW will continue to work with other groups to support continuation and expansion of funding for Pre-K classrooms. We also recognize the important role family and environmental factors play in educational development and advocate the involvement of social work professionals in early education programs.

Department of Children's Services

The Tennessee Chapter recognizes the important work of the Tennessee Department of Children's Services. NASW-TN will work with them to support the professionalism of the child welfare workforce and on initiatives to improve the lives and protection of Tennessee's children.

Environmental Justice

NASW applauds the [*Grand Challenges for Social Work*](#) recognition that "the environmental challenges reshaping contemporary societies pose profound risks to human well-being, particularly for marginalized communities." NASW-TN will join with others in supporting policies that will reduce environmental threats to vulnerable and disadvantaged populations.

Ensuring Health Care Coverage for Tennesseans, Including Our Most Vulnerable

Access to health care is a critical issue for Tennesseans and for the Tennessee Chapter of NASW. We recognize the importance of:

- TennCare, Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act in providing health care coverage for our state's children, families, veterans, the elderly and persons with behavioral and other medical challenges,
- Understanding and addressing medical debt and its impact on the prosperity and health of Tennesseans,
- Federally qualified and faith-based health centers in providing primary care, and
- The Coordinated School Health Program in improving student health outcomes and supporting the connection between good health practices, academic achievement, and lifetime wellness.

Changes to any of the above programs should be implemented with an emphasis on maintaining and expanding coverage for children, persons with pre-existing conditions and others in need of health care. We must also recognize the cost of gaps in health care coverage on Tennessee communities, especially our rural areas.

Homelessness

NASW supports the development of comprehensive systems of services and supports for the homeless. We urge state and local government to continue to work collaboratively with community agencies and faith-based communities to respond to the special challenges Covid has presented for homeless individual and families.

Human Trafficking

Modern slavery and human trafficking is one of the fastest growing criminal industries and one of the biggest human rights crises today. NASW-TN commends the response of the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and Tennessee General Assembly in addressing human trafficking in collaboration with local government and nonprofits. We are impressed with the State's earlier ranking among the best in the nation when it comes to handling human trafficking cases. We continue to support on-going public awareness and action to address human trafficking and slavery in Tennessee.

People With Disabilities

NASW-TN will work collaboratively with the Tennessee Disability Coalition, Disability Rights Tennessee and other disability groups on budget and policy issues that ensure the rights of people with disabilities to participate fully and equitably in society, with appropriate supports to meet individual needs.

NASW-TN 2022 Legislative Priority Issues

Preserving Tennessee's Social Infrastructure

Tennessee's social infrastructure, made up largely of public/private partnerships and federal/state and local partnerships, has been strengthened and refined over the last 3 or 4 decades with bipartisan leadership of governors, legislators and citizens. TANF and other state and federal public benefits are important components of this social infrastructure. NASW-TN will continue to work with others to preserve and strengthen Tennessee's important social infrastructure with an emphasis on enabling children and families to achieve long-term stability.

Refugee and Immigrant Issues

At a national and Chapter level NASW supports immigration and refugee policies that uphold and support equity and human rights, while protecting national security. As professional social workers we are committed to helping our lawmakers and others understand how immigrants and refugees contribute to our communities so that public policies are designed in an environment of mutual respect.

Reproductive Rights

NASW-TN will track legislation related to reproductive rights and update members when key actions are being considered.

Revenue to Provide Crucial Services

Tennessee's tax system provides crucial revenue for services in Tennessee communities. We support efforts to ensure the availability of long-term revenue needed to enhance Tennessee's progress.

Safety

Family violence, school violence, child abuse and gun violence are unfortunately part of our society. Tennessee's social workers respond to these and other situations regularly. We urge Tennessee's legislative leaders to turn to social workers for crucial information, including information on evidenced based practices, as you develop policies to address violence in our families and communities.

Seniors

NASW-TN recognizes the crucial efforts of social workers in serving Tennessee's growing senior population. We support dignified, humane, effective and client-based services for seniors that are consistent with social work values.

Service Members and Veterans

NASW is committed to supporting the health and well-being of our nation's service members, *veterans*, and their families. We will work with others to ensure benefits are available that recognize the important contributions and needs of these residents.

Voter Rights

NASW and social workers have long supported ensuring that disenfranchised populations have the right to vote. We will continue our work on voter rights and join with others opposing voter disenfranchisement.

Web Resources for Tennessee Families Including Broadband Accessibility and Digital Inclusion

NASW-TN has partnered with the Tennessee Alliance for Legal Services (TALS) for many years to ensure web resources are available to assist Tennessee families. We will continue to work jointly with TALS to help public officials understand how social services and legal information can jointly assist their constituents. NASW-TN also commends Tennessee's outstanding work to make easy to understand information available to families through www.kidcentraltn.com.

We additionally recognize the importance of broadband accessibility and support digital inclusion.

Women's Health

NASW-TN supports equal and affordable access to comprehensive women's healthcare and will work with legislative and regulatory bodies to develop and implement policies that advance women's health in Tennessee.

Additional Monitoring & Information Dissemination Issues

Death Penalty

NASW advocates the abolition of the death penalty as this punishment is at variance with social work values. NASW-TN is committed to monitoring this issue and keeping our members informed of developments in Tennessee's death penalty system.

Management Data

The Tennessee Chapter of NASW knows the utilization of good data can improve public policy management decisions. We support the development of strong data systems for evaluating and improving the delivery of services to our most vulnerable populations.

Transportation

NASW-TN will monitor efforts to increase funding for mass transit and other transportation options that increase accessibility for low income and vulnerable populations.

**2022 SOCIAL WORK DAY ON THE HILL
STUDENT POLICY PRESENTATION JUDGING SHEET**

University and Program _____ Judges Initials: _____
 _____ Baccalaureate or _____ Masters

Please give 0 - 5 points in each box unless otherwise indicated,
with 5 being the highest rating you can give.

1. Policy abstract was received by the deadline for printing the program (i.e. abstract is included in the program). 10 Points	/10
2. PowerPoint was received by the deadline. 10 Points	/10
3. Video presentation received by deadline. 10 Points	/10
Presentation CRITERIA:	❖❖❖❖
1. Presentation is a maximum of 5 minutes in length. 10 Points	/10
2. Presentation clearly defines the social policy or issue.	/5
3. Presentation states the policy as it is and analyzes the strengths/limitations of current policy.	/5
4. Presentation identifies specific ways in which at-risk populations or professional Social Workers are impacted by the current policy.	/5
5. Presentation states reasons to support and/or recommendations to improve the policy; these should incorporate various levels of social work practice and social work core values.	/5
6. Presentation is creative, innovative, persuasive, captures the attention of the viewer; uses appropriate graphics, statistics, pictures, charts, to get message across. 10 Points	/10
PowerPoint CRITERIA:	❖❖❖❖
1. PowerPoint lists university name, presenters and program (BSW or MSW)	/5
2. Topic is congruent with NASW, Tennessee Chapter 2022 Active or Partnership issues.	/5
3. PowerPoint defines the social policy issue and identifies three to five strengths/limitations of the bill, budget proposal or policy. This may include information on vulnerable, at-risk populations, or social work professionals that may be specifically impacted by the current policy. 10 Points	/10
4. PowerPoint states three to five reasons to support and/or recommendations to improve policy; these recommendations may address various levels of social work practice and include examples of how other states have addressed this same policy issue. May also include rationale for support of the bill, budget proposal or policy and recommendations for alternatives. This is designed to educate legislators and others about the issue. You may also want to look at other bills related to the topic for ideas	/5
5. PowerPoint is creative, innovative, persuasive, captures the attention of the reader; uses appropriate graphics, statistics, pictures, charts, to get message across.	/5
TOTAL SCORE	/100

2022 NASW-TN Social Work Day on the Hill Policy Poster Competition

BSW Policy Poster Presentations

Tennessee State University
HB1307-SB0640: Tennessee: Children
Deseree Hill and Tatiannah Issac



As of today, there is not a lot of life skilled based curricula offered within our development and detention centers. Therefore, we must advocate for the youth who are not being heard within the system. Bill, HB1307 / SB0640 implements a structured curriculum within youth development and detention centers that focus on life skills. This bill will help teach youth to have guidance for financial management, learning how to apply for jobs, and create a resume. In addition, have proper council for rehabilitation for drug and alcohol usage; Response to trauma, and understanding the importance of mental health. This can help reduce the barrier and supply resources for youth to become improved citizens and can transition back into society smoothly. The departments that will help structure the curricula taught will be the department of education, department of children's services, department of mental health and substances abuse services.

Belmont University
HB 1648 and SB 2597
Madelynn Griffin, Julianne Hughart, Mackenzie Martin, Vianney Muniz, and Jacob Shelton



In 1982, the Supreme Court ruled in *Plyler V Doe* that it is unconstitutional to deny public education to undocumented children. Because undocumented people have been barred from accessing many of the main support systems within American society, this population's connection to the public school system plays a significant role in navigating the challenges associated with their legal status. In Tennessee specifically, it is estimated that approximately 12,000 undocumented children ages three to seventeen reside within the state. Due to their legal status, these 12,000 children experience a wide array of hardships, including an increased risk of poverty and mental health issues, that negatively impact their development; However, the public school system has been positioned to provide them with supports that would otherwise be inaccessible. Although *Plyler V Doe* established undocumented children's right to education, states have continued to challenge this ruling. In fact, the most recent of these challenges is currently moving through the Tennessee General Assembly. Sponsored by Representative Griffey and Senator Hensley, HB 1648 and SB 2597 would effectively eliminate state education funding for undocumented students, forcing educational institutions to solely take on financial responsibility, and allow school districts to deny them enrollment. The denial of public education to undocumented students is completely antithetical to the values of the social work profession, and thus, social workers should adamantly oppose this bill. This presentation will discuss the proposed legislation, analyze the impacts and limitations of the bill, and identify salient recommendations for change.

Austin Peay State University
Staffing of Case Managers by Department of Children's Services
Jennifer M. Snook



Senate Bill (SB) 1900 presented by Senator Heidi Campbell and Representative Gloria Johnson supports that the Department of Children's Services (DCS) should attain appropriate levels of case managers for each region. The SB proposes that DCS assign no more than 12 cases per case manager. This act to amend current Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-5-132(a) would allow case managers to have the appropriate time required to ensure appropriate permanency planning, home visits and referrals for appropriate services. Currently DCS reports 586 unfilled case manager positions, this leaves current case managers with an unmanageable number of cases. Foster children are not getting their needs met due to overloaded case managers which ultimately affects their overall physical, mental and emotional health. The very act of being in the foster care system is traumatic. Foster children at various stages of life can witness events so traumatic that their ability to grow emotionally, socially, cognitively and biologically are stunted. At-risk children such as those in foster care from innumerable types of backgrounds represent over 7,500 children currently in the state of Tennessee. The passing of this bill would allow foster children to have a fighting chance at receiving the services they desperately need.

BSW Policy Poster Presentations Continued

East Tennessee State University HB 1944 Obscene Materials Prohibited in School Libraries *Carolyn Trent and Madison Beaty*



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House bill 1944 by Cepicky prohibits obscene materials and materials claimed to be harmful to minors from school libraries. This bill will require all local education agencies to adopt a policy that allows the parent or guardian of a student to report any material they find obscene to the director of schools. The director would then have to remove the challenged material from the library for at least 30 days while the board of education reviews the appropriateness of the material. This act would most negatively impact youth of color, LGBTQ youth, and individuals with diverse backgrounds. These populations are already underrepresented in media and education, and according to the American Library Association, the most frequently challenged materials involve topics dealing with racism, sexuality, and political viewpoints. This takes away the individual freedom to self-determination and one's right to read. I call for improvements on this bill. Libraries are meant to provide a safe and open learning environment for all individuals, but censorship divides and limits education that is essential to the development of our youth. Social workers, as obligated by the NASW code of ethics, have a responsibility to their clients to promote self-determination and provide culturally informed services, and they have a responsibility to the broader society to participate and act in the shaping of policies. Social workers are essential to protecting diverse authors and readers.

Union University School of Social Work SB 2398 / HB 2145

*Coshalyn Brice, Tashara Davis, Bethany Justice, Katie Komada, Leanna Lane, Terynie McGory,
and Silece Wilbourn*



House Bill 2145 would provide financial support to a relative caregiver of a child who may be at risk of entering state custody. When a child can no longer be cared for by their biological parent, separation will cause trauma. However, the impact of this trauma on the child can be minimized if they are placed with a family member with whom they are familiar. Because many kinship arrangements are sudden and because the financial responsibility of the child will fall upon this relative caregiver, the decision to step up can be a very difficult one. This bill would provide some financial resources to the relative caregiver and thereby make their decision to care for the child easier. Therefore, we support the intent of this legislation in order to serve the child, relative caregiver, and society. We recognize that while there are costs related to this program, some of those expenses could be offset if at-risk children are able to avoid placement in state custody. While we support this bill, we also recommend some modifications to provide a more successful outcome. As written, this legislation has a qualifying criterion that would exclude some relative caregivers due to their household income yet does not take into account the expenses associated with taking on the responsibility of an additional family member. House Bill 2145 has the potential to yield positive results, although for maximum kinship placements as well as optimal outcomes for children and relative caregivers, this bill needs some substantial modifications.

The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Bill Number HB 800 - SB 1216

Kayle Haynes, Erin Davidson, & Jenna Crabtree



This bill would prevent schools from adopting or using textbooks and instructional materials that promote, normalize, support, or address lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, or transgender (LGBT) issues or lifestyles. It would prevent students from learning about the history of LGBTQ+ issues, prevent an understanding of and ignore the cultural effort and the individuals who have fought for human rights. Students and school social work professionals are impacted by this bill passing due to the low number of school social workers and the high demand that mental health in schools can become. The bill is not supportive of diverse lifestyles nor does it give any representation or education for the LGBTQ+ community. For these reasons, we do not support the passing of this bill. We propose to veto this bill and replace it with one that supports educational materials that educate on accurate and inclusive history of America. This affects a large population and can have lasting negative effects on each student's future and mental health. Principles like Dignity and Worth of a Person and Social Justice in the NASW Code of ethics are grounds to support opposing this bill. One expectation of the school system is to teach children necessary skills and knowledge as well as relevant information, and with this bill passing we are failing to uphold the values that America holds.

2022 NASW-TN Social Work Day on the Hill Policy Poster Competition

MSW Policy Poster Presentations

University of Tennessee, Knoxville Campus Compassion Before Confinement

Emily Dobias, Brooke Frohlich, Kristin Kimberlain, Kilexyus Moore, and De'ayne Scaife



The society uses the correctional system as an inefficient and harmful method of dealing with behavioral health conditions as indicated by the significant increase of incarcerated individuals with behavioral health issues since the deinstitutionalization. One study found that this trend accounts for about 7 percent of prison population growth from 1980 to 2000— representing 40,000 to 72,000 people in prisons who would likely have been in mental hospitals in the past. A new bill is being posed by the Tennessee legislature by submitting House Bill 2841 requires the creation of a jail diversion grant program and a community crisis response grant program by the department of mental health and substance abuse services. Either pre- or post- arrest and before incarceration or conviction, individuals with a behavioral health disorder who otherwise would have been processed through the criminal justice system will instead be routed away from the system to an appropriate treatment platform. The work to implement this policy would be moderate but achievable given the various resources communities often already possess. This entire policy can be implemented but several considerations should be made. These include clarification on where individuals will be diverted to before or after arrest, continued care for the individuals involved and a clear funding plan.

Tennessee State University HB 2335/SB2240: Tennessee: Controlled Substance *Shironka M. Lopez*



As introduced, requires the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services to study the effect of rules concerning the prescribing of buprenorphine products in nonresidential office-based opiate treatment facilities, nonresidential substitution-based treatment centers for opiate addiction, pharmacies, and hospitals for calendar years 2019, 2020, and 2022, including effects on patient access, prescriber availability, and the delivery of substance abuse treatment; requires the department to report findings and recommendations to health-related committees of the general assembly. This year, DMHSAS collects data to report findings and recommendations to the health-related committee of the General Assembly by February 1, 2023. By new legislation reducing the opioid supply, there has been a decrease in opioid prescriptions. Tennessee is ranked third in the country with prescription drug abuse. 70,000 Tennesseans are addicted to opioids, warranting a public health crisis. Individuals with a substance use disorder live in an environment that increases the demand for use. It is time to promote evidence-based research to understand how buprenorphine can support a person's road towards recovery. Buprenorphine is an approved FDA medication for assisted treatment. MAT is a recommended steppingstone for the client's treatment and sustains more extended periods of abstinence from a harm reduction approach. Social Workers can help clients' recovery path to healing and wellness and educate others on supporting individuals with a substance use disorder.

University of Tennessee, Knoxville College of Social Work (Online Campus) TENNESSEE GOING GREEN: Legislation that Grants Access to Medical Cannabis SB2532 & HB2641 *Jane Mitchell and Sophie Sikes*



Senate Bill 2532 and House Bill 2641, sponsored by Senator Haile, Representative Terry, and Representative Powell, presents a medical cannabis program for authorized patients and appointed caregivers, allowing them to possess specific medical cannabis products (*Bill Search 2022*). If passed, this bill will take the place of the law of high cannabidiol (CBD) and low delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) products. The legalization of medical cannabis in the state of Tennessee will allow physicians the prescribing power to make decisions based on what is best for their patients. This bill seeks to alleviate the suffering caused by opioid abuse as well as numerous conditions, including Alzheimer's disease, HIV, chronic pain, and the many symptoms caused by cancer treatments. This bill will also help decrease the number of people arrested for small possession charges of marijuana, which are disproportionately people of color. This bill addresses the NASW-TN legislative priorities of promoting available and appropriate behavioral health and substance abuse services, racial justice, revenue to provide crucial services, and ensuring health care coverage for Tennesseans, including our most vulnerable, as well as NASW core values including the dignity and worth of a person and social justice.

MSW Policy Poster Presentations Continued

Southern Adventist University

SB1678/HB1736

Noreen Moise, Tomorrow Arnold, Elisha Fowler, Tabitha Odell-Sparks, Charlia Johnson, Jill Warschauer, Caleb Olmedo, Berkeley Comete, Brooke Holloway, Jami Williams



In Tennessee, 40% of women and 37% of men experience domestic violence (DV) in the forms of physical and sexual assault, emotional/psychological abuse, and economic abuse. Economic abuse occurs in 99% of DV cases and is the most significant barrier to leaving abusive relationships. Economic abuse creates dependence on perpetrators by removing survivors' resources to leave the abuse. This may include restricting financial resources or access, preventing the ability to maintain employment or pursue education and training, or destroying survivors' ability to become financially independent. Passage of SB1678/HB1736 would allow this substantial barrier to being treated as a DV offence, allowing survivors to seek legal support and recourse for experiencing this form of abuse. This bill focuses on adding a more holistic version of DV. The purpose of this bill is to add the economic side of DV and its nuances. Regulation, monitoring or depleting finances are considered domestic abuse. It also includes the methods of such abuse like pursuing education or job training. As social workers, we believe that SB1678/HB1736 would equip DV survivors with more language and leverage when seeking help in their situation. Survivors will have a wide array of language to describe their situation, which would help legitimize their experience. The addition of monitoring or depleting finances and restricting working ability will cover all the areas where the survivor may be affected. It will give space and legitimize the many layers of DV.

University of Tennessee, Knoxville College of Social Work (Nashville Campus)

A VOTE FOR EVERY VOICE

Sara R. Ellis, Baylie Spring, and Linda Sok



Our Presentation will focus on Senate Bill 0466: As introduced, allows a voter to use a photo identification card issued by a public institution of higher education to verify the voter's identity when voting; permits a voter to vote absentee for any reason after providing a certification as to the identity of the voter in the application for a ballot; requires an absentee ballot to be counted for the election in which the ballot is cast; deletes the requirement that a voter who registers by mail must vote the first time in-person. - Amends TCA Title 2 and Title 49.

Union University Germantown

Tennessee Aware

Kasha McNeil & Lynette Timmons



According to the Tennessee Aware initiative, mental health disorders are the most common diseases of childhood. A lot of these mental health disorders go undiagnosed and untreated. As social workers, thinking about ways to combat undiagnosed mental health disorders should be at the forefront. Research shows that 60% of children in juvenile detention have a diagnosable mental illness. This contributes to behaviors and negative actions in multiple settings. The primary setting for continued disruptions is the school setting. Children spend at least 8 hours of their day at school. It is important to freeze the school to prison pipeline by providing additional support. The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in increases in undiagnosed and untreated mental health disorders. Death has been ever so present, and grief has become more difficult to deal with on every level. For children, dealing with the death of loved ones, decreased social interaction, and the fear of contracting COVID has been particularly trying. How can we best support students in the wake of the pandemic? Constructing and implementing a mental health screening on all students can provide steps forward in aiding in support, with the goal of developing ideal citizens to live in the community and replenish it. SB 2357 / HB 2493 proposes doing just that, and social workers should advocate for it becoming law.

East Tennessee State University

SB808/HB1586

Azeez Elesho & Amy Fowler



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An estimated 7 million children in the United States have a mental health disorder. While only half of those receive treatment, 75% receive treatment through school-based support. Covid-19 has only exacerbated student mental health with increases in depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder. School-based support services currently are more important than ever especially as students spend more of their active moments in school than at home. Mental health disorders associated with drug abuse have become all-time high in the United States and have reached an epidemic level. To cushion the effects of drug misuse, there is a need to prepare our young ones for healthy adult life through policies that seek to remedy and reverse the epidemic of substance addiction and mental illness in the country by increasing funding and expanding the BEP to include engaging counselors and psychologists in pre-college educational settings. SB808/HB1586 sponsored by Senator Yarbrow and Representative Camper addresses the urgency for appropriate funding for schools. The current Basic Education Program (BEP) funding formula does not meet best practice ratios for school social workers, counselors, nurses, and psychologists. Recognizing that student mental health is directly related to academic success, we urge the Legislature to push this necessary policy through.

2022 Annual Award Winners

NASW, Tennessee Chapter is pleased to recognize our outstanding Chapter Award Winners. We invite nominations from NASW members every year and each NASW-TN Branch selects award winners from their area. The Branch Award winners are then submitted for consideration for the Chapter Awards. Our Executive Committee and Branch Representatives on our Chapter Committee on Nominations and Leadership Identification (CNLI) select our Chapter Award winners.

★★★★★Lifetime Achievement Award★★★★★

Melea Hunter, LCSW

The Lifetime Achievement Award is given to an NASW member in celebration of a lifetime of accomplishments. This award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated the best social work values and accomplishments throughout their lifetime.



Melea Hunter was nominated for the Lifetime Achievement Award by Nichole Chapin, LICSW Women Veterans Program Manager at James H. Quillen VA Medical Center. That nomination follows with additional excerpts from numerous supportive colleagues.

Though Ms. Hunter retired from the James H. Quillen VA Medical Center in November 2022, her contributions to the VA healthcare system and the Northeast Tennessee region endure.

Ms. Hunter built what is now known as the Post-9/11 Military 2VA (M2VA) Case Management Program at the James H. Quillen VA Medical Center. As local military units across the state of Tennessee began returning from post-9/11 deployments, she worked with VA Medical Center leadership to develop a multi-disciplinary healthcare team and supportive services in preparation to meet the complex needs of this population. She formed teams that hosted “welcome home” events for returning service members, and connected them with VA services. Today, that program continues with the mission of supporting post-9/11 Veterans by connecting them with comprehensive healthcare, and providing direct care through case management and other treatment modalities.

Ms. Hunter served with the Center of Excellence for HIV/AIDS at Quillen College of Medicine prior to joining VA. There, she worked closely with a multi-disciplinary team to meet the needs of HIV+, low income individuals across Northeast Tennessee. She provided case management to Ryan White funding recipients, and fought AIDS-related discrimination across the region through advocacy and education. She serves as a staunch advocate for this population to this day.

Ms. Hunter provided clinical supervision and served as a field instructor for MSW students for East Tennessee State University, Radford University, and the University of Tennessee. In addition to her leadership role at VA, Ms. Hunter maintained a successful private practice for much of her career. She is known as a compassionate therapist with experience in LGBTQIA+ challenges.

2022 Annual Award Winners

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Lifetime Achievement Award ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Melea Hunter, LCSW

Excerpts from support letters from colleagues

To some, a Lifetime Achievement Award may reflect large grants, research, or macro work. Melea does not have these accolades. Melea's efforts are reflected in the client who chose life after confiding in her about their struggle with suicidality. They are the informal conversations in her office that helped a young social worker stay in the profession and better care for themselves and their clients in the process. It is the effort to stop and help an elderly Veteran walking in the hall get to their appointment. It is the client who knocked on her door in the hallway and found the help they needed, despite being in the wrong area. It is the warm encouragement that helps you continue on after a client loss. It is a lifetime of these small acts that have changed countless lives.

-Benjamin Garland, DSW, LCSW

Melea deliberately sought to work in challenging settings with clients and systems that were underserved, marginalized, and/or difficult to reach. Her knowledge of advanced clinical applications is as thorough as her ability to make home visits in the most extreme rural Appalachian communities of poverty.

Melea is a quiet force. She does not seek the spotlight although she will take it if it will help her clients. She does not seek to be a formal "subject matter expert" although she has been at every place she has worked and continues to take consultation calls in her partial retirement. She has served as an official and unofficial peer counselor to those of us who needed to talk through issues without fear of it being discussed later. Melea brings a credibility to our profession that we could all hope to emulate. I can't imagine a more deserving candidate for this recognition.

-Cody Frasure, LCSW

Melea was fantastic at building trusting relationships with Veterans and recognizing the worth of each individual she encountered. I experienced this in referrals she provided me to offer spiritual care. These veterans always spoke highly of Melea and the way in which her calm, caring, and empathic presence helped them to more fully seek help for the issues they struggled with. While she was always intentional toward referring veterans for counseling, Melea was just as much available to receive referrals for follow up with veterans having difficulty navigating the VA system and receiving the care needed. She was very much attentive to following up with these requests in a timely manner and staying in communication to maintain continuity in working together to provide the highest quality of care. Melea also was a strong program coordinator who developed psychological safety and empowered ownership within the function of the team as we strove toward prioritizing veteran care. These efforts provided effective communication, clear roles, collaboration, and openness to input from all team members.

- Adam C. Page, M.Div., BC Clinical Chaplain for Domiciliary and Outpatient Mental Health James H. Quillen VA Medical Center

While at the VA, she served on a treatment team with me and several others, including less experienced clinicians and some Social Work interns. It was during those meetings that I came to see her deep commitment to Social Work values. It was an honor to watch her, in her quiet, subdued way, as she guided discussions around meeting Veterans where they are, and to always allow their right to self-determination. She assisted those around her to always consider the person in environment perspective.

Her compassion and respect for all is inspiring. She can calmly and directly address that some would have avoided. She has a way of broaching sensitive topics in ways that do not make people defensive. She can sit knee to knee with people and have the difficult conversations.

- Angelica Skiles, LCSW Acting Associate Chief of Staff, Mental Health James H. Quillen VA Medical Center

2022 Annual Award Winners

★★★★★ Social Worker of the Year ★★★★★ *Elliot Pinsly, LCSW*

The Social Worker of the Year Award honors a member of NASW who exemplifies the best of the profession's values and achievements through specific accomplishments. In honoring the Social Worker of the Year, NASW highlights superb accomplishments in the practice of social work.



Elliot Pinsly, LCSW, is a skilled and savvy social worker who has reinvigorated collaborative mental health policy and advocacy efforts in Tennessee. His energy and passion are contagious, and he is committed to improving the mental health and well-being of Tennesseans.

Mr. Pinsly is President and CEO of the Behavioral Health Foundation, a data-driven nonprofit policy center based in Nashville. The Behavioral Health Foundation is an in-demand field placement location for Tennessee social work students wishing to engage in macro level practice experience. Elliot proudly identifies as a social worker and epitomizes the values of the profession in both words and action. As a volunteer, he leads and participates in state, national, and global councils, coalitions, and task forces focused on pre-arrest diversion, behavioral health care access, stigma reduction, and protection of human and civil rights. Whenever Elliot is called upon, not only will his answer be a resounding yes, but he jumps in headfirst with full energy and a “do-whatever-it-takes” attitude.

Recently, the Behavioral Health Foundation, in collaboration with Nashville Organized for Action and Hope (NOAH) developed “Nashville Health, Engagement, and Liaison Services (HEALS)” based on a community responder program from Oregon, where mental health crisis workers and medics respond to 911 calls instead of law enforcement. With this program, teams can intervene and make referrals to health and social services without the uniforms, sirens, and handcuffs that can increase distress for people in crisis.

In 2016 Elliott and Judge Dan Eisenstein co-founded the Tennessee Diversion Coalition, now with nearly 100 leaders from across disciplines and regions. Due in large part to Elliot’s leadership, the coalition successfully advocated for more than \$20 million in state dollars for behavioral health related criminal justice reform, including a \$4 million in grants for Sheriffs to implement more humane emergency mental health transportation.

In March 2022, Elliot took bold steps and led a successful charge against a misguided piece of state legislation that would have inappropriately forced individuals into assisted outpatient treatment. Despite controversy and a short turnaround, Elliot pulled together an ad hoc coalition of seven leading statewide mental health advocacy and disability rights organizations including NASW, Tennessee Chapter. He then on his own, despite concerns of COVID-19, met in person with 19 of the 21 House committee members, led strategy, and prepared to give testimony. Despite long odds, the legislation was defeated soundly in full committee due almost entirely to Elliot’s valiant efforts to stand up for the rights of vulnerable Tennesseans.

Last June, Elliot won the George Goodman Brudney and Ruth P. Brudney Social Work Award from Mental Health America (MHA) at their national conference in Washington, D.C. The award recognizes significant contributions made to improve the care and treatment of people with lived mental health experience. When accepting his award from MHA, Mr. Pinsly stated, “The profession of social work requires that we not only do the work in front of us but also go above and beyond to advocate for social justice and systems change. We must continue working together, across all professions, to ensure everyone has access to high quality care whenever and wherever they may need it.”

Elliot is a passionate leader in mental health policy and strategic advocacy who has helped to develop innovative and effective behavioral health programs serving countless Tennesseans. He has been instrumental in the expansion of crisis walk-in centers, pre-arrest diversion and deflection programming, emergency mental health transportation reform, insurance parity enforcement, and mental health awareness. Elliot and the Behavioral Health Foundation work hand-in-hand with fellow social workers, behavioral health providers, judges, advocacy organizations, law enforcement, hospitals, legislators, government officials, and concerned citizens.

Elliot Pinsly was nominated by Judge Dan Eisenstein & Maggie Landry, LMSW, LSSW Instructor/Assistant MSW Field Coordinator – University of Memphis

2022 Annual Award Winners

★★★★ Social Work Educator of the Year ★★★★★ *Dr. Kristi Wilder*

The Social Work Educator of the Year Award honors a member of NASW who exemplifies the best of the profession's values and achievements through specific accomplishments in teaching, educational leadership and scholarship.

Dr. Kristie Wilder is an integral part of the Southern Adventist University School of Social Work family. She has served in different capacities since 2013 as faculty, as co-director of field education, and as dean.

Dr. Wilder graduated from Southern Adventist University with a bachelor's degree in social work and completed her master's degree in social work at the University of Tennessee. She received her Doctor of Jurisprudence from the Nashville School of Law. Prior to coming to Southern, Dr. Wilder worked with children, adolescents and families in community facilities, non-profits and government agencies. Her experiences include program development for children in state's custody, training child welfare workers and foster parents, and developing juvenile justice and child welfare policy with the Comptroller's Office of Research and Education Accountability in Nashville, Tennessee.

Dr. Wilder's commitment to the core values of social work permeates everything she does. Her heart for service, her deep respect for the dignity and worth of each person, for diversity in all its dimensions, shine through in the classroom, through her interaction with students and colleagues, and through her advocacy for students facing different needs. In addition to her teaching undergraduate and graduate courses, Dr. Wilder is the BSW Club advisor modeling social work values and helping them come to life. At the university level, Dr. Wilder has served in different committees, most recently on the Retention Committee, the Committee on Sexual Integrity, and the IRB/Research Committee helping influence and shape university policies and strategic planning. Currently she represents the School of Social Work on the University Senate, where advocacy and social justice are at the core of her engagements. For her tireless work with our students and her involvement in our community, Dr. Wilder was recognized as the 2021 faculty recipient for the President's Distinguished Community Service Award.



In the classroom, Dr. Wilder is committed to the success of her students. She believes that learning should be both rigorous and fun academically as well as spiritually and emotionally. Dr. Wilder has guided her students in policy development and encouraged and offered opportunities for students to be active at the local community, state and national levels. Dr. Wilder has had her students involved with the NASW-TN Social Work Day on the Hill and takes students to Washington DC to be involved in legislative work and to show students that they can make a difference.

At the community level, social work values are once again foundational to all she does. Dr. Kristie Wilder has been involved in many communities with social justice issues. She and the School of Social Work have partnered with the Chattanooga Police Department (CPD) on a research project aimed at providing evidence-based victim services. Dr. Wilder has been involved in the Empower Women PAC, that is helping women advance politically and professionally.

Dr. Wilder has been involved in NASW-TN since before 2011. She has been on the steering committee for NASW-TN's Southeast Branch and has not only taught at the university but also has lead trainings in the community. Dr. Wilder has consistently demonstrated her commitment to the six core values and ethical principles of the social work profession -- Service, social justice, dignity and worth of the person, importance of human relationships, integrity, and competence.

Dr. Kristie Wilder was nominated by Lisa Maguire, LAPSW, with a support letter from Dr. Laura Racovita, Dean of Southern Adventist University's School of Social Work

2022 Annual Award Winners

★★★★★ MSW Student of the Year ★★★★★ *Jonah Freed*

The Social Work Student of the Year Award honors a student member of NASW who is enrolled at least half-time in a graduate or undergraduate social work program who has created a positive influence on classmates for the profession, and maintained academic achievement. Awards are presented to both a BSW and MSW student.



Jonah Freed is a Master of Science in Social Work (MSSW) student at the University of Tennessee College of Social Work. As a former Peace Corps volunteer and social service worker in Chicago, Jonah entered the MSSW program with a clear understanding of the profession and with a keen commitment to social work values. He very quickly emerged as a top student who seized each available opportunity to further his knowledge and to give back to the social work profession.

His field instructors have consistently provided positive feedback on his performance and skills throughout his time in the program. His generalist year field instructor described him as a “phenomenal student who created a sustainable initiative to ensure access to and understanding of services available to Latinx students... I cannot speak enough about his excellence.” Similarly, his concentration year field instructor shared that Jonah is deserving of this award. Jonah is truly exceptional. He is a rare combination of humble and high achiever. He always has a growth mindset, out of genuine respect for the field and humankind.

Jonah worked as a Graduate Research Assistant (GRA) throughout his time as an MSSW student. He is diligent and demonstrates ethical practice to the highest degree. His emotional maturity and dedication to social work is consistently reflected in his work and in the way he is respected by his peers and faculty alike.

Jonah has accomplished far more than is expected of MSSW students during his time in the program. He has been engaged in two grant proposals, both of which were funded and one of which he led, that strengthened services for immigrant communities in Tennessee.

In his work as a GRA, Jonah helped to coordinate a group of immigration lawyers and mental health providers toward the goal of supporting immigrants facing asylum and deportation hearings. Specifically, his initial role as a GRA was to support Dr. Held and the other team members to set up a website and platform to coordinate communication and establish processes for lawyers and mental health providers to collaborate on immigration court hearings. Because of Jonah’s stellar work, communication skills, and devotion to this project, he quickly emerged as a leader within the group. His conceptualization of the needed steps and processes have been an essential component of seeing this project come to fruition.

A final example of his accomplishments relates to his activities during the summer between his two years of the MSSW program. Jonah elected to volunteer at an immigrant-serving shelter (La 72) on the border of Mexico and Guatemala that summer. He served Central American immigrants who were either planning to stay in Mexico or continue to the United States. As is so typical of Jonah, he went above and beyond his requirements in this volunteer role to identify and address unmet needs of immigrant clients and La 72 staff.

One of Jonah’s many contributions as a social worker is his proficiency in Spanish. He navigated cultural and linguistic barriers when he joined Peace Corps to learn another culture and to become fluent in Spanish. He has maintained this fluency as an MSSW student so that he could continue to directly serve immigrant communities in Tennessee.

Jonah’s work has deeply benefitted the social work practice and client community. His work in field placements and as a GRA has helped to establish foundations and practices that will serve immigrant clients for the foreseeable future. His work in the GRA position was so valuable that he was invited by immigration lawyers and social workers to serve as Vice President on a related nonprofit organization board. His positive demeanor and commitment to social work ethics and values has benefitted his classmates in classroom discussions.

Jonah was nominated by Ragan Schriver, LAPSW, PsyD Assistant Dean & MSSW Program Director, Knoxville Campus and Mary Held, LCSW, PhD Director, MSSW Program Nashville campus of UT College of Social Work

2022 Annual Award Winners

★★★★★ BSW Student of the Year ★★★★★ *Cailin Stricklin*

The Social Work Student of the Year Award honors a student member of NASW who is enrolled at least half-time in a graduate or undergraduate social work program who has created a positive influence on classmates for the profession, and maintained academic achievement. Awards are presented to both a BSW and MSW student.

The following nomination of Cailin Stricklin was submitted by Kenya Anderson, LMSW Clinical Assistant Professor, The School of Social Work The University of Memphis

I am pleased to nominate Ms. Cailin Stricklin for BSW Student of the Year. I have known Ms. Stricklin as an undergraduate student for two years. In that time, Ms. Stricklin has demonstrated commitment to her educational goals while maintaining an outstanding academic performance. Ms. Stricklin displays a high degree of integrity and motivation in her performance of generalist practice. She continues to develop knowledge and gain practice experience through service to the community.

As a social work intern, Ms. Stricklin often worked long hours and remained active until the client services were completed. Her performance evaluations assessed her skill demonstration of advanced-level knowledge, skills, and abilities needing minimal supervision. In practice, Ms. Stricklin demonstrates an ability to set boundaries and utilize effective time management skills. She has utilized technology and social media in an ethical manner further demonstrating her versatility in practice and potential for professional growth.

Ms. Stricklin's practical approach to professional skills authenticate her approach to social work practice. She routinely demonstrates patience and empathy when working with clients and colleagues. Her desire to empower others and work with diverse populations is strengthened by her effective communication skills. It was her performance during the social work field practicum that resulted in an offer for employment from her field agency.

As a passionate social worker who seeks to help others in inclusive settings, Ms. Stricklin embraces challenges and is open to new experiences. Her knowledge of rural and urban environments enhances her professional skills and ability to work in diverse settings.

As field director, it is with pleasure I write this letter on behalf of Cailin Stricklin who performed as a model of ethical and innovative practice during a time of great adversity. Ms. Stricklin persevered as the pandemic and related occurrences became obstacles, she overcame with motivation to continue her social work education beyond generalist practice.



2022 Annual Award Winners

★★★★★ **Public Citizen of the Year** ★★★★★ *Pastor Dianne P. Young*

The Public Citizen of the Year award honors an outstanding member of the community whose accomplishments exemplify the values and mission of the profession of social work. The award winner is not a social worker.



Pastor Dianne Young holds a bachelor's degree in Theology and a Master of Christian Counseling Psychology. Pastor Dianne Young is the co-founder and co-pastor of The Healing Center Full Gospel Baptist in Memphis, TN. She serves in the ministry alongside her husband, Bishop William Young.

In 2002, an unfortunate tragedy happened on the church grounds, one of the members completed suicide, and the body was discovered before one Sunday morning worship service. This tragedy sparked Pastor Young's lifelong quest to address mental health in the Black Church. Pastor Young works feverishly every day to peel away at the stigma of mental health in the Black Church by highlighting awareness through her weekly Sunday morning radio show, the bi-annual conference "Suicide in the Black Church," and the Wellness and Stress Clinic of Memphis.

She considers herself as a "trailblazer" for women in the ministry. Pastor Dianne has held membership and leadership positions within Memphis/Shelby County and the state of Tennessee, such as Gang Think Tank (2009), Board of Memphis Mental Health (2008-2014), NAMIs Advisory Board (2008), Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Planning and Policy Council (2012). In addition, she sits on boards for our local colleges and mental health organizations ensuring that the African American voice is heard. She was nominated and won the local "Hometown Hero" award this year.

The Wellness and Stress Clinic of Memphis was a vision of Bishop William and Pastor Dianne Young to treat the 'whole man': mind, body, and spirit. The clinic is located in an impoverished area that has high crime with untreated mental health needs, food insecurity, medically underserved, and uninsured/underinsured populations. The Youngs envisioned that clinic would be in close proximity of the church and local residents wouldn't have to travel across town to receive quality, free medical and behavioral health services.

Pastor Young's commitment to treating the whole person and highlighting mental health needs within the African American community are a testament of our core social work values of service, social justice, dignity and worth of the person, importance of human relationships, integrity, and competence. Pastor Young believes that the church has a responsibility to take care of the entire community, not just its membership. For this reason, the Wellness and Stress Clinic is open to any person who walks through the doors in need of services. She has established an integrated behavioral healthcare setting where medical providers, social workers, and mental health professionals collaborate in full support of the patient's needs. Her strong belief in service to the community is reflected in the fact that many of the clinic's providers and staff are volunteers who give their time and energy for the greater good. Pastor Young continually reaches out to other community leaders to create awareness about the clinic, because she knows that a network of mutual support is the best possible safety net for underserved populations in Memphis.

Her service and commitment to the community are unparalleled. She is establishing a firm legacy of empowerment and societal change through her remarkable leadership.

Pastor Young was nominated by Charry Malone, LMSW and Julie Meiman, LMSW

2022 Annual Award Winners

★★★★★ Public Official of the Year ★★★★★ *Tami Sawyer, Shelby County Commissioner for District 7*

The Public Official of the Year Award recognizes outstanding service and contributions of a governmental official who has shown leadership in the formulation of public policy, particularly policies that affect social justice, health care, education, civil and human rights, and social practice.

Commissioner Tami Sawyer has a commitment to social justice and the social protection and inclusion of all people, particularly those who have been historically marginalized and continue to be marginalized. As a public officer, she is very involved in the community. Memphis can always count on Commissioner Sawyer to show up and do the work that is required to protect the community and the most defenseless in it. She is a loud advocate but acts with great skill and intelligence. She is an exemplar of what a public official should be. She represents the most noble social work values of service, social justice, dignity and worth of the person, importance of human relationships, integrity, and competence. She cares and it shows.

Commissioner Sawyer has had a diverse career, but always in service of others and social justice. She has served with the U.S. Navy, Shelby County Schools, and Teach for America, where she served as Managing Director for Diversity and Community Partnerships. Currently, she serves as co-chair of the Memphis NAACP Legal Defense Fund. Her commitment to service and social justice has led her to leadership positions with Black Voters Matter and Common Cause.



Ms. Sawyer became a Shelby County Commissioner in 2018, when she was elected to the 7th District. In her short tenure, she has become the chair of the Education and Legislative Committees, where her wise and strong voice has made a difference in the lives of the people she serves. She was a powerful advocate for fair and equitable maps during the recent redistricting battle in Shelby County. She is a voice for justice to be reckoned with. She also serves as the chair of Shelby County Commission Black Caucus.

Ms. Sawyer is an activist of the greatest caliber, living a calling to help and defend the most marginalized in Memphis. Moving to Memphis as a child, she was inspired by Martin Luther King, Jr., and has dedicated her life to advocating for peace and justice.

She has already achieved much in her short career. She was instrumental in the successful “Take Em Down 901” campaign which began in 2017 to advocate for the removal of statues and monuments honoring Jefferson Davis, the president of the Confederacy, and Nathan Bedford Forrest, Grand Wizard and one of the founders of the Ku Klux Klan. Ms. Sawyer could not permit that in a city that is 60% Black, parks and monuments honored those whose goal was the exclusion and exploitation of Black people. She led a diverse group of concerned citizens in that effort.

In 2020, Ms. Sawyer was at the forefront of the Shelby County response to the COVID-19 crisis, and she spearheaded the county’s resolution mandating masks. Ms. Sawyer cares about the health and well-being of the entire community. She has advocated against police brutality, voting rights, and poverty. She is focused on racial and economic equity, making her one of the strongest allies of social work Tennessee has ever seen.

Commissioner Sawyer was nominated by Elena Delavega, PhD, MSW

NASW, Tennessee Chapter Congratulates Our Distinguished Branch Award Winners

NASW-TN Branch Award Winners

West Branch

Social Worker of the Year – Elizabeth Propst
Social Work Educator of the Year – Cherry Malone
MSW Student of the Year - Alexanna S. Scott
BSW Student of the Year – Taylor Baggett
Public Citizen – Pastor Dianne Young
Public Official - Commissioner Tami Sawyer

Mid-West Branch

Social Work Educator of the Year – Dr. Nita Mehr
MSW Student of the Year – Kayla M. West
BSW Student of the Year – Cailin Stricklin

Middle Branch

Social Worker of the Year – Elliot Pinsly
Social Work Educator of the Year - Carmelita Dotson
MSW Student of the Year- Tyesha Butler

Southeast Branch

Social Work Educator of the Year - Kristie Wilder
MSW Student of the Year – Mary Beth Lester
BSW Student of the Year - Audrey Buettner
Public Citizen of the Year - Edward Harding & Glenn Beavers

Knox Branch

MSW Student of the Year – Jonah Freed

Northeast Branch

Lifetime Achievement – Melea Hunter
Social Worker of the Year – Jodi Helbert
MSW Student of the Year - Latonia Collie
Public Citizen of the Year - Keira Moore-Majors

Members of Tennessee Senate Sorted by Senate District

DISTRICT	COUNTIES REPRESENTED	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	PARTY	OFFICE (CHB)	PHONE (615)	EMAIL (@CAPITOL.GOV)	EDUCATION	STATE & LOCAL GOV	FINANCE, WAYS & MEANS
1	Cocke, Greene, Hamblen, Sevier	Steve	Southerland	R	722	741-3851	sen.steve.southerland			
2	Blount, Sevier	Art	Swann	R	748	741-0981	sen.art.swann			
3	Washington, Unicoi, Carter	Rusty	Crowe	R	720	741-2468	sen.rusty.crowe	x		
4	Johnson, Sullivan	Jon	Lundberg	R	714	741-5761	sen.jon.lundberg	Acting CH		x
5	Anderson, Loudon, and part of Knox	Lt. Gov. Randy	McNally	R	700	741-6806	lt.gov.randy.mcnaally			
6	Part of Knox	Becky	Massey	R	776	741-1648	sen.becky.massey			
7	Part of Knox	Richard	Briggs	R	770	741-1766	sen.richard.briggs		CH	
8	Claiborne, Grainger, Hancock, Hawkins, Jefferson, Union	Frank	Niceley	R	712	741-2061	sen.frank.niceley			
9	Bradley, McMinn, Meigs, Monroe, Polk	Mike	Bell	R	716	741-1946	sen.mike.bell	x		
10	Bradley and part of Hamilton	Todd	Gardenhire	R	732	741-6682	sen.todd.gardenhire		1st VCH	x
11	Part of Hamilton	Bo	Watson	R	706	741-3227	sen.bo.watson			CH
12	Campbell, Fentress, Morgan, Rhea, Roane, Pickett, Scott	Ken	Yager	R	704	741-1449	sen.ken.yager		x	x
13	Part of Rutherford	Dawn	White	R	740	741-6853	sen.Dawn.White	x		x
14	Bedford, Lincoln, Marshall, Moore and part of Rutherford	Shane	Reeves	R	752	741-1066	sen.shane.reeves			
15	Cumberland, Jackson, Overton, Bledsoe, Putnam, White	Paul	Bailey	R	736	741-3978	sen.paul.bailey			
16	Coffee, Franklin, Grundy, Marion, Sequatchie, Van Buren, Warren	Janice	Bowling	R	718	741-6694	sen.janice.bowling			
17	Cannon, Clay, Dekalb, Macon, Smith, Wilson	Mark	Pody	R	754	741-2421	sen.mark.pody			

X = Committee Member CH= Chair of Committee 1st VCH= First Vice Chair of Committee 2nd VCH = Second Vice Chair

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18	Sumner, Trousdale, and part of Davidson	Ferrell	Haile	R	708	741-1999	sen.ferrell.haile	x		x
19	Part of Davidson	Brenda	Gilmore	D	768	741-2453	sen.brenda.gilmore			x
20	Part of Davidson	Heidi	Campbell	D	774	741-6679	sen.heidi.campbell			
21	Part of Davidson	Jeff	Yarbro	D	764	741-3291	sen.jeff.yarbro		x	x
22	Stewart, Houston, Montgomery	Bill	Powers	R	772	741-2374	sen.bill.powers	x	x	
23	Williamson	Jack	Johnson	R	702	741-2495	sen.jack.johnson			x
24	Benton, Henry, Carroll, Gibson, Obion, Weakley	John	Stevens	R	710	741-4576	sen.john.stevens			1st VCH
25	Cheatham, Dickson, Hickman, Humphreys, Robertson	Kerry	Roberts	R	730	741-4499	sen.kerry.roberts			
26	Chester, Decatur, Fayette, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, McNairy, Henderson	Page	Walley	R	744	741-2368	sen.page.walley		2nd VCH	
27	Madison, Crockett, Dyer, Lake, Lauderdale	Ed	Jackson	R	750	741-1810	sen.ed.jackson		x	
28	Giles, Lawrence, Lewis, Maury, Perry, Wayne	Joey	Hensley	R	746	741-3100	sen.joey.hensley	x		2nd VCH
29	Part of Shelby	Raumesh	Akbari	D	762	741-1767	sen.Raumesh.Akbari	2nd VCH		
30	Part of Shelby	Sara	Kyle	D	760	741-4167	sen.sara.kyle		x	
31	Part of Shelby	Brian	Kelsey	R	742	741-3036	sen.brian.kelsey		x	
32	Tipton and part of Shelby	Paul	Rose	R	734	741-1967	sen.paul.rose			
33	Part of Shelby	London	Lamar	D	766	741-2509				

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1	Part of Sullivan	John	Crawford	R	540	741-7623	rep.john.crawford			X		
2	Part of Sullivan	Bud	Hulsey	R	564	741-2886	rep.bud.hulsey					
3	Carter, Johnson and part of Sullivan	Scotty	Campbell	R	582	741-2050	rep.scotty.campbell			X		
4	Unicoi and Carter	John B.	Holsclaw, Jr.	R	534	741-7450	rep.john.holsclaw					
5	Part of Greene	David	Hawk	R	648	741-7482	rep.david.hawk			X	X	
6	Part of Washington	Tim	Hicks	R	518	741-1717	rep.tim.hicks					X
7	Part of Washington	Rebecca K.	Alexander	R	516	741-2251	rep.rebecca.alexander					X
8	Part of Blount	Jerome	Moon	R	530	741-5481	rep.jerome.moon					
9	Hancock and Hawkins	Gary	Hicks	R	642	741-7480	rep.gary.hicks			X	CHAIR	
10	Hamblen	Rick	Eldridge	R	522	741-6877	rep.rick.eldridge					
11	Cocke, Jefferson, and part of Greene	Jeremy	Faison	R	604	741-6871	rep.jeremy.faison			X		
12	Part of Sevier	Dale	Carr	R	568	741-5981	rep.dale.carr					
13	Part of Knox	Gloria	Johnson	D	442	741-2031	rep.gloria.johnson					
14	Part of Knox	Jason	Zachary	R	616	741-2264	Rep.Jason.Zachary			X		
15	Part of Knox	Sam	McKenzie	D	518	741-0768	rep.sam.mckenzie					
16	Part of Knox	Michele	Carringer	R	612	741-1721	rep.michele.carringer	X	X			
17	Part of Jefferson and Sevier	Andrew	Farmer	R	618	741-4419	rep.andrew.farmer					
18	Part of Knox	Eddie	Mannis	R	526	741-2287	rep.eddie.mannis			X		
19	Part of Knox	Dave	Wright	R	588	741-6879	rep.dave.wright					
20	Part of Blount	Bob	Ramsey	R	562	741-3560	rep.bob.ramsey					X
21	Parts of Loudon and Monroe	Lowell	Russell	R	504	741-3736	rep.lowell.russell					
22	Meigs, Polk, and part of Bradley	Dan	Howell	R	556	741-7799	rep.dan.howell					
23	McMinn, Monroe	Mark	Cochran	R	520	741-1725	rep.mark.cochran		X			
24	Bradley	Mark	Hall	R	550	741-1350	rep.mark.hall					X
25	Cumberland, Van Buren, and Bledsoe	Cameron	Sexton	R	600	741-2343	speaker.cameron.sexton					

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26	Part of Hamilton	VACANT		R	644	741-2548						
27	Part of Hamilton	Patsy	Hazlewood	R	622	741-2746	rep.patsy.hazlewood			CHAIR	X	
28	Part of Hamilton	Yusuf	Hakeem	D	524	741-2702	rep.yusuf.hakeem		X			X
29	Part of Hamilton	Greg	Vital	R	632	741-3025	rep.greg.vital					
30	Part of Hamilton	Esther	Helton	R	502	741-1934	rep.esther.helton					X
31	Bledsoe, Roane, Sequatchie and Rhea	Ron	Travis	R	678	741-1450	rep.ron.travis					
32	Part of Roane and part of Loudon	Kent	Calfee	R	542	741-7658	rep.kent.calfee					
33	Part of Anderson	John	Ragan	R	614	741-4400	rep.john.ragan	X				
34	Part of Rutherford	Tim	Rudd	R	544	741-2804	rep.tim.rudd					
35	Claiborne, Grainger and part of Union	Jerry	Sexton	R	430	741-2534	rep.jerry.sexton			X		
36	Campbell, part of Union and Anderson	Dennis	Powers	R	674	741-3335	rep.dennis.powers					
37	Part of Rutherford	Charlie	Baum	R	620	741-6849	rep.charlie.baum		X	VICE CHAIR	X	
38	Macon, Clay, Pickett, Scott, and part of Fentress	Kelly	Keisling	R	566	741-6852	rep.kelly.keisling					
39	Franklin, Moore and Marion	Iris	Rudder	R	576	741-8695	rep.iris.rudder					
40	Dekalb, Smith, Trousdale and part of Sumner	Terri Lynn	Weaver	R	554	741-2192	rep.terri.lynn.weaver					
41	Morgan, Jackson, Overton and part of Fentress	John Mark	Windle	D	428	741-1260	rep.john.windle			X	X	
42	Part of Putnam	Ryan	Williams	R	640	741-1875	rep.ryan.williams			X	X	X
43	White, Grundy and part of Warren	Paul	Sherrell	R	670	741-1963	rep.paul.sherrell					X
44	Part of Sumner	William	Lamberth	R	602	741-1980	rep.william.lamberth			X		
45	Part of Sumner	Johnny	Garrett	R	636	741-3893	rep.johnny.garrett			X		
46	Cannon and part of Wilson and Dekalb	Clark	Boyd	R	528	741-7086	rep.clark.boyd					X
47	Coffee and part of Warren	Rush	Briken	R	594	741-7448	rep.rush.briken					
48	Part of Rutherford	Bryan	Terry	R	646	741-2180	rep.bryan.terry					CHAIR
49	Part of Rutherford	Mike	Sparks	R	532	741-6829	rep.mike.sparks			X		
50	Part of Davidson	Bo	Mitchell	D	400	741-4317	rep.bo.mitchell					X

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51	Part of Davidson	Bill	Beck	D	574	741-3229	rep.bill.beck					
52	Part of Davidson	Mike	Stewart	D	550	741-2184	rep.mike.stewart					
53	Part of Davidson	Jason	Powell	D	418	741-6861	rep.jason.powell					
54	Part of Davidson	Vincent	Dixie	D	662	741-1997	rep.vincent.dixie					
55	Part of Davidson	John Ray	Clemmons	D	408	741-4410	rep.john.ray.clemmons	X	X			X
56	Part of Davidson	Bob	Freeman	D	592	741-0709	rep.bob.freeman			X	X	X
57	Wilson	Susan	Lynn	R	426	741-7462	rep.susan.lynn		X	X	X	
58	Part of Davidson	Harold M.	Love, Jr.	D	668	741-3831	rep.harold.love	X	X			
59	Part of Davidson	Jason	Potts	D	412	741-2035	rep.jason.potts					
60	Part of Davidson	Darren	Jernigan	D	572	741-6959	rep.darren.jernigan					X
61	Part of Williamson	Brandon	Ogles	R	660	741-6808	rep.brandon.ogles			X	X	
62	Bedford and parts of Lincoln	Pat	Marsh	R	610	741-6824	rep.pat.marsh					X
63	Part of Williamson	Glen	Casada	R	586	741-4389	rep.glen.casada	X	X			
64	Part of Maury	Scott	Cepicky	R	678	741-3005	rep.scott.cepicky	X	X			
65	Part of Williamson	Sam	Whitson	R	552	741-1864	rep.sam.whitson			X	X	X
66	Robertson	Sabi "Doc"	Kumar	R	654	741-2860	rep.sabi.kumar					X
67	Part of Montgomery	Jason	Hodges	D	508	741-2043	rep.jason.hodges			X		
68	Part of Montgomery	Curtis	Johnson	R	636	741-4341	rep.curtis.johnson					
69	Hickman and part of Maury and Dickson	Michael	Curio	R	630	741-3513	rep.michael.curcio					
70	Giles and part of Lawrence	Clay	Doggett	R	580	741-7476	rep.clay.doggett					
71	Hardin, Lewis, Wayne and part of Lawrence	David	Byrd	R	584	741-2190	rep.david.byrd					X
72	Henderson, Chester, Decatur and Perry	Kirk	Haston	R	596	741-0750	rep.kirk.haston		X			
73	Part of Madison	Chris	Todd	R	608	741-7475	rep.chris.todd	CHAIR		X	X	
74	Houston, Humphreys and Montgomery	Jay D.	Reedy	R	402	741-7098	rep.jay.reedy					
75	Henry, Benton and Stewart	Bruce	Griffey	R	578	741-6804	rep.bruce.griffey					
76	Weakley, Obion and part of Carroll	Tandy	Darby	R	676	741-7847	rep.tandy.darby		X			
77	Dyer, Lake and part of Obion	Rusty	Grills	R	400	741-0718	rep.rusty.grills					
78	Cheatham and Dickson	Mary	Littleton	R	634	741-7477	rep.mary.littleton					
79	Gibson and part of Carroll	Curtis	Halford	R	426	741-7478	rep.curtis.halford					

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80	Part of Hardeman and Madison	Johnny	Shaw	D	570	741-4538	rep.johnny.shaw			X		
81	Tipton	Debra	Moody	R	650	741-3774	rep.debra.moody					
82	Lauderdale, Crockett and Haywood	Chris	Hurt	R	500	741-2134	rep.chris.hurt	X	VICE CHAIR			
83	Part of Shelby	Mark	White	R	624	741-4415	rep.mark.white	X	CHAIR			
84	Part of Shelby	Joe	Towns, Jr.	D	416	741-2189	rep.joe.towns					
85	Part of Shelby	Jesse	Chism	D	434	741-6954	rep.jesse.chism					
86	Part of Shelby	Barbara Ward	Cooper	D	410	741-4295	rep.barbara.cooper					
87	Part of Shelby	Karen D.	Camper	D	664	741-1898	rep.karen.camper			X	X	
88	Part of Shelby	Larry J.	Miller	D	580	741-4453	rep.larry.miller			X		
89	Part of Knox	Justin	Lafferty	R	506	741-4110	rep.justin.lafferty		X			
90	Part of Shelby	Torrey C.	Harris	D	430	741-2239	rep.torrey.harris					
91	Part of Shelby	VACANT		D	424	741-3830	rep.london.lamar					
92	Marshall and part of Franklin, Lincoln and Marion	Todd	Warner	R	512	741-4170	rep.todd.warner					
93	Part of Shelby	G.A.	Hardaway	D	404	741-5625	rep.ga.hardaway					
94	Fayette, McNairy and part of Hardeman	Ron	Gant	R	606	741-6890	rep.ron.gant			X	X	X
95	Part of Shelby	Kevin	Vaughan	R	519	741-1866	rep.kevin.vaughan					X
96	Part of Shelby	Dwayne	Thompson	D	420	741-1920	rep.dwayne.thompson					
97	Part of Shelby	John	Gillespie	R	590	741-8201	rep.john.gillespie		X	X		
98	Part of Shelby	Antonio	Parkinson	D	419	741-4575	rep.antonio.parkinson		X			
99	Part of Shelby	Tom	Leatherwood	R	514	741-7084	rep.tom.leatherwood					VICE CHAIR

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WHY IS LICENSED SOCIAL WORK IMPORTANT?

A social work license in any setting protects the public and benefits the community by supporting practice that is competent, ethical, & accountable.

LICENSED BACHELOR SOCIAL WORKER	LICENSED MASTER SOCIAL WORKER	LICENSED ADVANCED PRACTICE SOCIAL WORKER	LICENSED CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER
<p>Application Fee: \$100 Renewal Fee: \$45 (biennial)</p> <p>CEU: 18 hours every 2 years, including 6 hours related to ethics, 2 hours every 4 years related to suicide prevention, & 1 hour specific to Tennessee Code Annotated §§ 63-23-101 and the Rules and Regulations of the Tennessee Board of Social Worker Licensure.</p> <p>SCOPE: Generalist social work practice within an agency or organization (i.e. Case management in a community mental health agency).</p>	<p>Application Fee: \$150 Renewal Fee: \$95 (biennial)</p> <p>CEU: 24 hours every 2 years, including 6 hours related to ethics, 2 hours every 4 years related to suicide prevention, & 1 hour specific to Tennessee Code Annotated §§ 63-23-101 and the Rules and Regulations of the Tennessee Board of Social Worker Licensure.</p> <p>SCOPE: Supervised practice within an agency or organization (i.e. Grief counseling in a hospice care facility under LCSW supervision).</p>	<p>Application Fee: \$225 Renewal Fee: \$95 (biennial)</p> <p>CEU: 30 hours every 2 years, including 6 hours related to ethics, 2 hours every 4 years related to suicide prevention, & 1 hour specific to Tennessee Code Annotated §§ 63-23-101 and the Rules and Regulations of the Tennessee Board of Social Worker Licensure.</p> <p>SCOPE: Non-clinical social work practice in an agency, organization, or independently. toward LAPSW (i.e. Educator or consultant).</p>	<p>Application Fee: \$225 Renewal Fee: \$95 (biennial)</p> <p>CEU: 30 hours every 2 years, including 6 hours related to ethics, 2 hours every 4 years related to suicide prevention, & 1 hour specific to Tennessee Code Annotated §§ 63-23-101 and the Rules and Regulations of the Tennessee Board of Social Worker Licensure.</p> <p>SCOPE: Clinical practice in an agency, organization, or independently. (i.e. Therapist in private practice).</p>



For more information, go to www.tn.gov or contact the Tennessee Board of Social Worker Licensure at 615-741-5735 or Unit1HRB.Health@tn.gov.

WHAT IS REDLINE?

The Tennessee REDLINE
(1-800-889-9789)

Is an information and referral line coordinated by TAADAS and funded by the Tennessee Department of Mental Health Substance Abuse Services. The purpose of the REDLINE is to provide alcohol, drug, problem gambling, and other addiction information and referrals to all citizens of Tennessee at their request.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- We are an anonymous hotline, we do not collect any personal information.
- After providing referrals, we offer to give a warm handoff transfer to connect at-risk callers with a facility.
- For callers who have TennCare, we offer to give a warm handoff transfer to their insurance MCO so they may inquire about services covered in network.

WHO'S AT RISK:

- INTRAVENOUS DRUG USE
- HISTORY OF OVERDOSE
- WITHDRAWAL SYMPTOMS
- INDIGENT (NO MEANS TO PAY)
- ALCOHOL AND/OR OPIATE USE

IF A CALLER IDENTIFIES UNDER THESE ASSESMENT QUESTIONS, THEY ARE CONSIDERED TO BE AT RISK AND ARE OFFERED A WARM HANDOFF TRANSFER TO A FACILITY AT THE END OF THE CALL.

WHAT TO DO:

If you receive a call from the TN REDLINE, please allow us to transfer the at-risk caller if you are able. Because we are anonymous, we will not have any personal information about them, such as Member ID #, Name, Social Security #, etc.

TN
REDLINE
1.800.889.9789

TAADAS
Tennessee Association of Alcohol, Drug & other Addiction Services

TN Department of
**Mental Health &
Substance Abuse Services**

This project is funded under a Grant Contract with the State of Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

TENNESSEE ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS (TASSW)

Time to Shine

For More Information Visit
<https://tassw.wildapricot.org>



CONFERENCE

The 2022 TASSW Conference
will be virtual.

Save the date: September
29th & 30th, 2022

Theme: School Social
Workers Got Your Back!

Registration: Coming soon!

MEMBERSHIP

Join us to enjoy the benefits of TASSW:

- A Community with Fellow School Social Workers
 - Lobbying for legislation
 - Input on the state survey
 - Discounted Rates to TASSW Conferences
 - Student and Retiree Membership Discounts
 - Discounted Membership for the School Social Work Association of America (SSWAA)
- Plus more...

WHAT WE DO

- **UNITE** in one association all persons engaged in the practice of social work in the schools or in social work education
- **ENCOURAGE** the interpretation and promotion of school social work
- **COORDINATE** school social work activities
- **SHARE** ideas, techniques and research which will help promote professional competency of social work in educational settings
- **DISSEMINATE** information and focus public attention on issues that affect the educational development of all students
- **FOSTER** cohesiveness among the membership and to further the goals and objectives of the Association

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To promote, assist, and support development, growth, and sustainability of Child Advocacy Centers in their service to at risk, abused, and neglected children and their families.

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utc.edu/social-work

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www.socialworkers.org

NASW National website

What you can find: Online membership application, NASW Code of Ethics, Special Student Section, Social Work Blog, Updates and advocacy alerts on national legislative issues, The Social Work Career Center, and much more.

www.naswtn.com

NASW-Tennessee Chapter website

What you can find: Up-to-date information on Tennessee's Social Work Licensure Law, Announcements of local NASW activities in your area, Social Work Day on the Hill and continuing education events, TENNESSEE SOCIAL WORK SNAPSHOT, and Information on local job opportunities.

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