

NASW-TN Candidate Biographical Information Spring 2018

NASW-TN Board of Directors and Branch Chair Candidates

CANDIDATE FOR FIRST VICE PRESIDENT



Ragan Schriver, LAPSW, ACSW, Psy.D.
Knoxville

PLATFORM STATEMENT

I believe that the profession of social work is a great avenue for us to make the world (communities, agencies, organizations, families, couples, individuals) a healthier place. We use such tools as counseling theories put into practice, knowledge of neuroscience, organizational leadership, research, communal wisdom and our own selves to serve people who, quite often, society has cast aside. My participation in this field has challenged me in so many ways to grow to be a more compassionate and committed

person. As a member of the board of the Tennessee Chapter of the NASW I would be proud to be of some service to the profession that has done so much for me personally and to make things better for people all over our state and world. This type of leadership role, in my understanding, is best guided by the principles of servant leadership where the person who leads views themselves as a servant to others. The role of Vice President would be to support the work and efforts of professional social workers in whatever way possible.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Education:

MSW, George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University, St. Louis, MO

Psy.D. Graduate Theological Foundation, South Bend, IN

Employment History, Including Current Employer:

Christ Hospital Eating Disorder Unit, Cincinnati OH 1988-1992 - Counselor

Community Alternatives to Prison Program, Knoxville TN 1992-1993 - Counselor Priest

Catholic Charities of East Tennessee, Knoxville TN 1999-2013 - Executive Director (also provided clinical services to groups and individuals)

University of Tennessee, College of Social Work, Knoxville TN, 2013-present, Assistant Professor of

Practice/Program Director of MSSW Program/Interim Associate Dean

Catholic Charities USA, Washington DC, 2014-Present, Social Work Consultant

Professional and Community Leadership Experiences That Show Leadership Capacity:

Leadership Knoxville

Chair, East Tennessee Homeless Coalition

Chair, Leadership Council of Agency Directors for Catholic Charities USA

Board member and Evaluation Committee Chair, Trinity Health Foundation

Board member, Discover Life in America

Prior Positions Held in NASW:

Member, Knoxville Branch Steering Committee

Member, NASW-TN Board

First Vice President, NASW-TN Board

CANDIDATE FOR DIRECTOR AT LARGE



Susan Gray, PhD, MSW
Monterey

PLATFORM STATEMENT

Throughout my career as a social worker, NASW has had a strong influence on my growth and professional identity. To serve as Director at Large would be an honor. I welcome the opportunity to do my best to work toward advancing the Tennessee Chapter of NASW to identify emerging issues, promote social work, and advance sound social policies. Together, we can turn possibilities into realities. My strengths include a strong history of client advocacy, leadership, personal integrity, and a focus on putting ethical principles into practice. With your vote, I will do my best to make a difference

for our profession and our clients.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Susan Gray, PhD, MSW, is Professor Emerita at Barry University Ellen Whiteside McDonnell School of Social Work. Susan's leadership and contributions to the profession were nationally recognized in 2016 when she was awarded NASW's prestigious "National Lifetime Achievement Award" for her decades of work improving the treatment of people living with mental illness and educating future generations of social workers. Her strong history of service to NASW is reflected, for example, as member of the Tennessee Chapter Continuing Education Committee, Delegate to the Delegate Assembly for 15 years and for 2 Assemblies as co-chair of the Southeastern Coalition, Florida Chapter Board Secretary, Committee on Nominations and Leadership Identification (CONLI), and Ethics Committee. She has practiced in a variety of settings in New Jersey, Oklahoma, Virginia, and Florida. Motivated by wanting to pay forward the mentoring she received, Susan assumed a teaching position at Barry University where she taught practice courses, directed the Doctoral Program, and spearheaded a comprehensive revision of the doctoral curriculum. She has numerous publications, among them 3 textbooks including her popular *Psychopathology: A Competency-based Assessment Model for Social Workers*.

CANDIDATE FOR PROFESSIONAL ISSUES REPRESENTATIVE



Karen Jointer, LMSW
Nashville

PLATFORM STATEMENT

Each of my career stops has given me new and broader insights I'm truly thankful for. I've seen a lot, and I've been exposed to different perspectives and the ever-evolving, yet never-ending challenges that confront members of our profession. I understand long days, that are often followed by sleepless nights; I've gained great insight in the differences and similarities between different communities, and cultures; I understand

working with what seems to be a large budget we know is never large enough; I've worked with and for people with conflicting yet passionately-held interests; I've learned first-hand that the social ills of today are blind to country, color, race, gender and socioeconomic status. And I've also seen first-hand the devastating impact of medical challenges from institutions to insurance providers to social services to children and their families. However, what I've discovered is this....there is strength in our diversity and how it can bring us together instead of dividing us. I know how hard our jobs as Social Workers are, and because of that I'm committed to supporting the state's efforts to protect and serve members across the state!

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Karen Jointer has been a social worker for over 17 years. She earned a Master's of Science in Social Work, with an emphasis on Management and Community Practice from the University of Tennessee. She has served the field of social work in many capacities; beginning her career at Youth Villages serving youth in residential, group home and in home settings. She's worked as a Research Associate at Casey Family Services in New Haven, CT; spent five years as a Child Welfare Consultant at the Univ. of Tenn. Health Science Center; then ventured to Sunderland, England for almost a year to serve as a Principal Social Worker for the local Children's Services. Additionally, she has had the pleasure of serving as the Director of Social Work at LeBonheur Children's Hospital in Memphis, TN and finally, before being hired as Executive Director for the Tennessee Chapter of Children's Advocacy Centers, she worked for the Department of Children's Services as the Director of Community Partnerships for CPS Investigations.

CANDIDATE FOR BSW STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE



Kristen Small
Mount Juliet

PLATFORM STATEMENT

My name is Kristen Small and I would like to be considered for the position of BSW Student Representative on Board of Directors for the Tennessee Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers. Growing up in Southern California in an area that was heavily challenged by a number of societal conditions, I was inspired at an early age to serve in the community as an aide and an advocate for those who were without the means, the understanding, or the will to help themselves. Through many various experiences in academia, I have found that there is only one field that would allow me to pursue my passion and contribute to change most effectively. I am so happy I found that field is indeed, Social Work. In correlation with this field's aim, I aspire to use the education I have acquired from Brescia University to pursue my MSW with the goal of becoming a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and assisting individuals dealing with issues centered upon mental and emotional health. I look forward for the opportunity to both collaborate and co-labor with my fellow NASW members and agents of change as we work together united in our mission to improve the quality of life for individuals, groups, and communities within Tennessee. With passionate drive and intentional consideration, I commit to be a mindful and decisive leader. Understanding the vital importance of cohesiveness, I will serve my fellow officers with staunch integrity, dependability, and honesty. It will be my honor to represent the Tennessee Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers as BSW Student Representative. Thank you for your consideration.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

I am currently enrolled as an online student at Brescia University. My anticipated graduation date is May 2019. I have received the honor of being elected Vice President of the Social Work Club at Brescia. In addition, I also serve in the Nashville community as a Mentor through Big Brother Big Sisters, Inc. as well as a Crisis Counselor for Crisis Text Line.

CANDIDATES FOR MSW STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Vote for One



Angela Quadrani
Memphis

PLATFORM STATEMENT

I feel that I have a purpose to fulfill and a passion and drive to influence certain programs in the realm of substance use and co-occurring mental health disorder treatment. I currently work as a Treatment Consultant for American Addiction Centers, helping families and individuals find recovery. I come from a family history of alcoholism and addiction, but also from a family that has found long-term recovery. I want others to know that change is possible. The first goal I would like to accomplish during my time as a graduate student is to implement, grow and develop the Collegiate Recovery Community Chapter at the University of Memphis. The CRC is a sobriety-

based organization that supports students in their journey of recovery and helps them achieve their academic goals. The term 'recovery' is all inclusive, ranging from recovery from drug and alcohol addiction, recovery from eating disorders, or recovery from mental health disorders as well. The CRC program at the University of Mississippi granted me a scholarship during my undergrad, which helped cover the cost of books and supplies. I had a support group on campus and a sober tent at 'The Grove' that kept me connected with other sober students. This is a fast growing program across the nation and it has contributed directly to my overall dream of working in the alcoholism and addiction treatment industry. I feel implementing a CRC program at the University of Memphis would be of value not only for the University, but for the student body as well. The highest percentage of individuals who become addicted to either drugs or alcohol, usually fall within the ages of 18-30. This affects the college population drastically, as college years are notoriously known as party years. We could retain students through a CRC program, increase grades and GPA's and offer sober support on campus. This would also help University of Memphis through hopefully increasing graduation percentages and affect the bottom dollar in a positive way. I am seeking election for the MSW Student Representative on Board of Directors, because I would like to network with current professionals and leaders in the social work field. I also believe in continuous personal development to learn the admirable executive qualities, skills and clinical knowledge necessary to become a leader this field.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Education

- Masters of Social Work August 2017-May 2021 The University of Memphis, Memphis, TN Current Cumulative GPA, 3.92
- Bachelor of Science in Dietetics and Nutrition August 2010-May 2014 The University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS
- Associate Degree in Hotel and Restaurant Management August 2008- June 2010 Northwest Mississippi Community College, Southaven, MS

Certifications and Affiliations

- TAADAS Student Member, Tennessee Association of Alcohol, Drug & Addiction Services 2018-2019
- NASW Student Member, National and Tennessee Chapter 2018-2019
- Dietetic Technician (DTR), Commission on Dietetic Registration, 2015-2020
- ServSafe Certification, 2014-2019
- Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Member, 2015-2016
- Tennessee Alcohol and Beverage Commission Certification (TABC), 2013-2018

Experience

- American Addiction Centers May 2016-Current
Business Development Treatment Consultant Nationwide

- Develop collaborative relationships and market a variety of successful and highly regarded treatment opportunities for substance abuse, mental health and dual diagnosis treatment services to professionals
- Created ongoing business need assessments for new business growth by identifying and establishing new potential referral sources, collaboration opportunities and business partnerships
- Fairhaven Treatment Center for Eating Disorders November 2015-April 2016
Community Outreach Manager Cordova, TN
 - Primary liaison to all current and future referral sources through face to face sales and marketing
 - Lead community effort to form and sustain prevention programs and raise awareness on eating disorders
 - Establish Fairhaven as accredited site for continuing education and the center for excellence in the Mid-South
 - Develop and manage public relations strategy, web and social media marketing, and prepare annual marketing budget

Awards and Accomplishments

- 2nd Quarter 'Most Improved' Award , MidSouth Team AAC
- St. Jude Marathon Fundraiser and Hero Volunteer, 2010-Current
- St. Jude Marathon Pacer, 2014-2015
- Ole Miss Gillespie Business Plan Competition Semi-Finalist, 2014
- Ole Miss Gillespie Business Plan Competition Winner, 2012
- Community Nutrition Class Project Director, 2012
- Phi Theta Kappa Member, Overall GPA of 3.7 or above, 2008-2010
- Delta Epsilon Chi President, Career and Technical Student Organization, 2010
- Employee of the Year Award, SHARFE Inc., 2007
- WOW Guest Satisfaction Award, SHARFE Inc., 2007
- WOW Guest Satisfaction Award, SHARFE Inc., 2006



Kendria Smith
Brentwood

PLATFORM STATEMENT

As a social work graduate student, the value of the NASW Code of Ethics is a lens from which professionals should view their work. This has been engrained into my discipline. What better opportunity to solidify this ethical gauge at an early stage, and contribute to the enhancement of standards for present and future professionals than a role as MSW Student Representative? As a student officer in the

Nashville MSSW program Phi Alpha Honor Society, I have a wealth of knowledge from fellow students and faculty at my resource that can be used for the greater development of the good of this organization. Although I am a new member of the NASW, I look forward to lending my experience, ambition and leadership skills, combined with knowledge from my undergraduate studies in Public Policy, to assist in promoting policies and raising issues that advance the field of social work.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This fall, I begin my final year at the University of Tennessee in the MSSW program, specializing in trauma-focused treatment. I attend classes online and work full-time as an executive assistant for a financial firm in Nashville. I am originally from New York and before moving to Tennessee two years ago, I was an active member of Big Brothers Big Sisters of NYC, and during this tenure became a "big sister" to a shy 11-year old girl who had just moved to the U.S. from Trinidad. I was recently elected Vice President of the Nashville MSSW program Phi Alpha Honor Society, working with student officers and faculty members to promote community involvement and scholastic achievement, as well as providing a stronger bond for students in the social work field. After graduating, I plan on taking the master's licensing exam and utilizing my education to serve domestic violence survivors suffering from trauma.

ALL MEMBERS CAN VOTE FOR THE PREVIOUS CANDIDATES AND FOR THE DELEGATE ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATIVE POSITIONS AT THE END OF THE BALLOT.

PLEASE NOTE THE NEXT CANDIDATES ARE RUNNING FOR BRANCH POSITIONS AND MEMBERS CAN ONLY VOTE FOR CANDIDATES IN THE BRANCH WHERE YOU LIVE OR WORK.

THE COUNTIES IN EACH BRANCH ARE LISTED BEFORE CANDIDATE INFORMATION FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE.

PLEASE ALSO NOTE THAT A BRANCH CAN ELECT

EITHER

A BRANCH CHAIR (who organizes local activities) and A BRANCH BOARD REPRESENTATIVE (who represents the branch on the Chapter Board)

OR

A BRANCH CHAIR WHO ALSO SERVES AS THE BRANCH BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

CANDIDATE FOR KNOX BRANCH BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

NASW-TN members should only vote for this position if you live or work in the Knox Branch that includes Anderson, Blount, Campbell, Claiborne, Cocke, Cumberland, Fentress, Grainger, Hamblen, Jefferson, Knox, Loudon, Monroe, Morgan, Roane, Scott, Sevier, and Union Counties.



Emily McCutcheon, LMSW
Knoxville

PLATFORM STATEMENT

I would like to continue to serve on the Board as a voice for Knoxville. I relish the opportunity to help shape local, state, and sometimes national policy by acting as the liaison between the Board and the social workers in Knoxville and the surrounding counties. Helping to ensure the flow of information occurs in both directions has been incredibly gratifying. I have enjoyed meeting social workers from across the state and hearing their varying perspectives. In my current work as a program evaluator, I see the impact of policy in the micro level. Having an additional conduit to share this feedback with policy makers has been such a wonderful opportunity and I look forward to continuing this work.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

I received my MSW from the Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis in 2000. I've worked in child welfare as a case manager and in the domestic violence field as a counselor. I currently work for the University of

Tennessee College of Social Work Office of Research and Public Service as a program evaluator. Most recently, I have worked with the City of Knoxville, The Tennessee Department of Education, the Tennessee ACEs Foundation, and many other agencies and programs in the region helping to ensure clients receive high quality programming and services. I've been a member of NASW since 2000 and have been working with the Knox Branch for the last five years.

CANDIDATE FOR KNOX BRANCH CHAIR

NASW-TN members should only vote for this position if you live or work in the Knox Branch that includes Anderson, Blount, Campbell, Claiborne, Cocke, Cumberland, Fentress, Grainger, Hamblen, Jefferson, Knox, Loudon, Monroe, Morgan, Roane, Scott, Sevier, and Union Counties.



Christy Hickman, LCSW
Knoxville

PLATFORM STATEMENT

Having completed the past year as Branch co-chair, I have learned more about the operations of our Branch. I would like to continue in the position to help the Knox Branch develop a structure for growth and ongoing engagement with the local social work community.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Since 2013 I have served as an Assistant Professor of Practice/Field Coordinator in the UT College of Social Work. At UT, I serve as a member of the Safe Zone Advisory Board.

In addition to the Knox Branch NASW, my local community involvement includes the Alliance House Community of Knoxville Leadership 360 and the Community Coalition Against Human Trafficking Task Force.

CANDIDATE FOR SOUTHEAST BRANCH BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

NASW-TN members should only vote for this position if you live in the Southeast Branch that includes Bledsoe, Bradley, Franklin, Grundy, Hamilton, Marion, McMinn, Meigs, Moore, Polk, Rhea, Sequatchie, and Van Buren Counties.



April Wilson, LMSW
Chattanooga

PLATFORM STATEMENT

As a current social work instructor, I really value advocating for the profession of social work. I feel that our work has so much meaning and purpose to others. In this position, I hope to bring a high level of passion, commitment, and the ability to foster a community of social workers in Chattanooga. Personally, I am deeply passionate about issues impacting children, intimate partner violence, members of the LGBTQ community, social work education, and community organizing. Much of my career has

been spent working and serving on behalf of vulnerable people. Lastly, I love people and my profession. The same level of commitment I bring to my clients and/or students, would be the same level of commitment and devotion I would bring to the Tennessee Chapter of NASW.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

I am currently employed as a clinical instructor in the UTC Social Work Department in Chattanooga Tennessee. Prior to becoming a full-time clinical instructor at UTC, I served as an adjunct faculty member in the UTC Social Work program as well as a field instructor for students. In addition, I worked at a community based agency that primarily served survivors of violence and those that do not have a stable, regular residence. I've held several positions in the past that has given me the opportunity to provide direct services, monitor/write grants, and serve as a recognized leader in my organization. In the past, I have served on the Head start Policy Council and the Shelter Best Practices Committee for the State of Tennessee.

CANDIDATE FOR SOUTHEAST BRANCH CHAIR

NASW-TN members should only vote for this position if you live in the Southeast Branch that includes Bledsoe, Bradley, Franklin, Grundy, Hamilton, Marion, McMinn, Meigs, Moore, Polk, Rhea, Sequatchie, and Van Buren Counties.



Katie Wilson, LMSW, CCM
Chattanooga

PLATFORM STATEMENT

As a social work professional, I recognize the importance of advocacy, self-care, support, and continuing education. These are all aspects that I would hope to incorporate into this role with NASW. I hope to be an active member of the social work community, utilizing this position to provide an increased level of awareness on the impact of social workers as agents of change. I hope to provide support as well as relative continuing education opportunities for those within the local community. I want to ensure that all levels of social workers are engaged within our community, from future social workers, to those that are fresh to the field, to those who have a lifetime of experience –we are all a part of a movement towards social change.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

I am currently employed at a Children's Hospital at Erlanger as the Children's Social Work Team Lead. Previously, I worked as a severe abuse investigator with Child Protective Services. I transitioned to Erlanger Hospital as a medical social worker in 2013. Within this role, I am able to coordinate with various community agencies to better serve the needs of our patients, as well as build a relationship with some of our community's most vulnerable children and families. In addition to having a LMSW, I am also a Certified Case Manager (CCM). I have been a field instructor for social workers at the BSW and MSW level for the past 5 years. I have been awarded Field Instructor of the Year by two different universities. I feel that my professional experience has prepared me to act as a leader in promoting the values and ethics of NASW within this leadership position.

CANDIDATE FOR WEST BRANCH CHAIR AND BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

NASW-TN members should only vote for this position if you live in the West Branch that includes Fayette, Lauderdale, Shelby and Tipton Counties.



Alexandra Thompson-Norman, MSW
Memphis

PLATFORM STATEMENT

As an ultimate social work professional, it is my plan to continue to bring about changes needed to promote a higher quality of life for all populations and communities being served. I know the importance of integrative wellness and making both direct and indirect connections as I continue to serve in this post. I also understand that to fully implement this goal there must be an allegiance to NASW organizationally and its processes. This is where my social work skill-set and leadership mindset come into action. As a committed “change agent” I will provide innovative ideas to increase

positive effects in individuals and within community partnerships. I will continue to research and choose vital social work topics and committed professionals that best help social workers stay abreast of current social work advancements. It excites me to consider the success that we, a group of social work professionals, can accomplish together.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A current employee of Anthem Inc. Amerigroup Real Solutions

Clinical Services & Support Coordinator possessing extensive knowledge of social work principles, techniques and practices and their application to complex casework, group work, and community issues. I utilize a wide range of knowledge of behavior and psychosocial problems, diagnosis and treatment.

- Daily I conduct assessments to identify individuals need and a specific care management plan to address objectives and goals as identified during assessments
- Implement care plan by facilitating authorizations/referrals as appropriate within benefits structure or through extra-contractual arrangements
- Responsible for evaluation, coordination/ management of member needs, including physical health, behavioral health, social services and long-term services and supports
- Monitor and evaluate effectiveness of the care management plan and modifies as necessary
- Identifies members for high-risk complications and coordinates care in conjunction with the member and the healthcare team.
- Manages member with chronic illnesses, co-morbidities, and or disabilities, to ensure cost effective and efficient utilization of health benefits
- Establish short and long-term goals in collaboration with the member, caregivers, family natural supports and physicians
 - Interface with Medical Directors, Physician Advisors and/ or Inter-Disciplinary Teams on the development of care management treatment plans

**End of Tennessee Chapter Board of Directors Candidate Bios.
Information on Candidates for Committee on Nominations and Leadership
Identification (CNLI) and Delegate Assembly Representatives
are on the following pages.**

NASW-TN Committee on Nominations and Leadership Identification (CNLI) Candidate

CANDIDATE FOR NORTHEAST BRANCH CNLI REPRESENTATIVE

NASW-TN members should only vote for this position if you live or work in the Northeast Branch that includes Carter, Greene, Hancock, Hawkins, Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi, and Washington County.

Nancy Strickler. MSW
Fall Branch

PLATFORM STATEMENT

This past year I served as the NASW-NETN CNLI Chair and have enjoyed participating in the role. I believe that NASW offers a lot to its members. Serving on the CNLI committee has allowed me to give back to NASW by serving in a small but important role in the organizations functioning. I feel honored to have been asked to participate in this way and would be honored to continue giving back to NASW and its members.

NASW-TN Delegate Assembly Candidates

**ALL MEMBERS ARE ABLE TO VOTE FOR TWO DELEGATE ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATIVES THAT WILL
SERVE FROM JULY 2018 – JUNE 2021.**

The Delegate Assembly is the representative, decision-making body through which NASW members set broad organizational policy, establishes program priorities, and develops a collective stance on public and professional issues. The Delegate Assembly meets once every three years and approves all policies published in *Social Work Speaks*. Tennessee will have 3 delegates at the 2020 Delegate Assembly, the Chapter President and the two elected delegates.

(The elected delegates may also serve on the Chapter Board.)



Susan Gray, PhD, MSW
Monterey

PLATFORM STATEMENT

Through participation in NASW, social work becomes a strong voice for social activism and participation in social issues. All it takes is a little action from all of us to make a difference, including your vote in NASW's upcoming election. Determining the vision for our profession's future is accomplished through the priorities set at the Delegate Assembly. Supported by my history of service to our profession, I will try my best to work toward strengthening NASW through proactive legislative and policy initiatives

and to establish program priority goals that are consistent with our profession's traditions. I am asking for your vote for Delegate to the next Delegate Assembly.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Susan Gray, PhD, MSW, is Professor Emerita at Barry University Ellen Whiteside McDonnell School of Social Work. Susan's leadership and contributions to the profession were nationally recognized in 2016 when she was awarded NASW's prestigious "National Lifetime Achievement Award" for her decades of work improving the treatment of people living with mental illness and educating future generations of social workers. Her strong history of service to NASW is reflected, for example, as member of the Tennessee Chapter Continuing Education Committee, Delegate to the Delegate Assembly for 15 years and for 2 Assemblies as co-chair of the Southeastern Coalition, Florida Chapter Board Secretary, Committee on Nominations and Leadership Identification (CONLI), and Ethics Committee. She has practiced in a variety of settings in New Jersey, Oklahoma, Virginia, and Florida. Motivated by wanting to pay forward the mentoring she received, Susan assumed a teaching position at Barry University where she taught practice courses, directed the Doctoral Program, and spearheaded a comprehensive revision of the doctoral curriculum. She has numerous publications, among them 3 textbooks including her popular *Psychopathology: A Competency-based Assessment Model for Social Workers*.



Bo Walker, LCSW, DCSW
Chattanooga

PLATFORM STATEMENT

I have an established record of NASW leadership in a variety of positions, and at all levels, including NASW Vice-President, Chapter President and Delegate Assembly representative on five previous occasions. This has given me an intimate appreciation of the role and value of Delegate Assembly in shaping social work policy and advancing the practice. My diverse practice background gives me a unique perspective of balancing policy and practice, promoting ethical standards and advancing the ideals of our profession. I am an avid team player and consensus builder, but willing and able to advocate for the most vulnerable that may be impacted by our decisions. I am seeking this position because of my commitment to the profession and belief that my knowledge, skills and experiences will add value to the process and outcomes.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

I have been a proud and active member of NASW for over 30 years and have been recognized locally, statewide and nationally for my outstanding leadership, service and practice. I was honored to serve as NASW Vice-President, Chapter President, Branch Chair, Delegate Assembly representative, NASW National Ethics Committee, member of the NASW ASI Board of Directors, plus many more offices. I was honored by the Tennessee Chapter with the Social Worker of the Year Award in 1992 and Lifetime Achievement Award in 2006. I was recipient of the Ruth P. Brudney Social Work Award in 1994. I am a licensed clinical social worker with the Diplomate in Clinical Social Work credential. I currently am the Director of Social Services at Moccasin Bend Mental Health Institute, a state psychiatric hospital in Chattanooga, TN, and privileged to provide leadership and training for dedicated staff serving the seriously and persistently mentally ill population. I was honored to be a member of the NASW Code of Ethics Review Task Force that made recommendations to Delegate Assembly for the recent revisions to our Code of Ethics.