



School Social Work  
Association of America

**SSWAA Leadership/Legislative Institute**  
Residence Inn, Alexandria, VA, July 12-14, 2015

***Advocacy in Action: Raising Awareness of School Mental Health***

**Sunday, July 12 - Residence Inn Old Town, 1456 Duke Street, Alexandria Virginia 22314**

12:30 – 1:30 Registration

1:30 PM – 5:00 PM: Opening Session, Myrna Mandlawitz, SSWAA Director of Government Relations

- Overview of Institute: "Process & People: How to and Who's Who"
- Brief overview of SSWAA talking points for Hill visits, Institute Logistics
- Networking Dinner (on your own)

**Monday, July 13 – NEA Headquarters, 1201 16<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Washington, DC** (see directions handout)

*Check in at the security desk when you enter the building, as they will have a list of attendees*

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM: Breakfast, Welcome and Introductions

9:00 AM -11:00 AM: ***Education and Mental Health Policy in the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress***

- Libby Nealis, SSWAA Director of Policy and Advocacy, NEA Healthy Futures, Sr. Program Coordinator, Behavioral and Mental Health
- In-depth discussion of SSWAA talking points and current pending legislative issues

11:15 AM – 12:30 PM: ***How to Fund School Mental Programs: Creative Thinking***

- Scott Cartland, Principal, Wheatley Education Center, District of Columbia Public Schools
- Dana Carr, Moringa Policy Consulting; former Director of Health, Mental Health, Environmental Health and PE, U.S. Dept. of Education

12:30 PM – 1:15 PM ***Networking Lunch, Welcome NEA IDEA Resource Cadre Members***

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM: ***The Whole Child, School Mental Health, and ESEA Reauthorization***

- Michael Yudin, Assistant Secretary for the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS), U.S. Dept. of Education
- Deb Delisle, Executive Director, ASCD; former Assistant Secretary, Elementary/Secondary Education, U.S. Dept. of Education

2:45 PM – 5:00 PM: ***Putting Advocacy into Action***

- Final preparation for July 14<sup>th</sup> Hill visits: Questions and Discussion
- Small group discussion: Personalizing the talking points and strategizing for visits
- Taking this Info Home to *your* State: Developing a Legislative Advocacy Plan

5:00 PM: Adjourn

5:30 PM: Happy Hour with IDEA Cadre, Beacon Hotel, 1615 Rhode Island Ave NW, Wash, DC  
OR  
CEC/CASE Legislative Leadership Summit Reception, Hilton Old Town Alexandria  
1767 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia  
*Dinner on your own*

**Tuesday, July 14 – Capitol Breakfast Briefing, 485 Russell Senate Office Building** (see directions handout)

8:15 AM – 10:00 AM: Capitol Hill Day Kick-off Breakfast

- Presentation of the SSWAA Children's Champion Award, **Senator Al Franken (D-MN)**  
*Anne McInerney, SSWAA President*
- Invited Speakers, Congressional Staff  
*Boris Granovskiy, Legislative Assistant, Senator Franken, MN*  
*Izmira Aitch, Legislative Assistant, Representative Gwen Moore (WI-04)*
- Final Review of Hill Packet Materials and Legislative Priorities

10:00 AM – 5:00 PM: Scheduled Congressional Meetings

Meet-up/Debriefing Opportunities: Senate Dirksen and Rayburn House Cafeterias (please drop in to "debrief" with SSWAA staff, turn in Hill Report Forms, etc.)

**Going between House and Senate office buildings:**

You can either walk (10-15 minutes) across the Capitol (East Front) or grab an inexpensive cab if it is raining or you are really in a hurry. *You can also be adventurous and ask a staffer from the office of your current meeting to escort you through the underground to the other chamber so you can make your next meeting. **They can do this – you just have to ask!***

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TUESDAY LUGGAGE STORAGE AND AIRPORT TRANSFER**

- A. If you have enough time before your departure, you can check out and leave your bags at the hotel, going back to pick them up before heading to the airport. ***Total commute time via metro: approx. 1 1/2 hours***
- B. You can bring your bags with you in the morning and store them at Union Station. Baggage storage is available near Gate A on the Amtrak concourse and is run and staffed by Tiburon Lockers. Amtrak and Union Station do not manage this service. (202) 898-1592

*Text or Call Libby with any questions or concerns, 202-421-3526*