Worst Bus Accident in City’s History
Social Work’s Expanding Role in a Post 9/11 World

Sandy Chaiken, LCSW-R, NYC Health & Hospital Corporation; North Bronx Health Care Network Director Of Social Work; Jacobi Medical Center/North Central Bronx Hospital

Editor’s Note: Recently, NASW-NYC staff became aware of the inspiring work of the Bronx-wide Social Work Disaster Response Team (SWDRT) after hearing Sandy Chaiken speak at an event celebrating Social Work Month. She shared the critical role that social workers played in the March 12th Chinatown Bus Accident, and described how Social Work is now recognized as a key component of Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response in the Bronx, with social workers taking the lead to address the psychosocial and mental health needs of victims of disaster. Timed in connection with the recognition of the tenth anniversary of 9/11, Currents

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2011 Annual Meeting Focuses on Social Work’s Role in Extraordinary Times

In his remarks, Keynote Speaker, Phil Coltoff addresses the critical need for social workers to expand their capacities to respond effectively to this challenging environment, calling upon their deepest convictions in themselves, and in the social work profession. Mr. Coltoff is the author of the recently-published book – At the Crossroads: Not-for-Profit Leadership Strategies for Executives and Boards.
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staff invited Ms. Chaiken to share how more than a decade of coalition building, competency-based training, and on-the-ground experience led to the formation of the SWDRT. Collaborating on this article with Ms. Chaiken were her colleagues at the NYC Health and Hospital Corporation’s North Bronx Health Care Network: Bill Lane, LCSW-R and Regina Riolo, LCSW-R. Mr. Lane is the Deputy Director of Social Work at Jacobi Medical Center/North Central Bronx Hospital and Ms. Riolo is the Social Work Supervisor for the Emergency Department Social Work Unit at Jacobi Medical Center.

When my pager went off early in the morning of Saturday March 12, 2011, I saw the number, and immediately knew something was wrong. I was informed there was a Chinatown Bus Accident on Interstate 95 which resulted in multiple casualties. This was later written about in New York Magazine as “the worst bus accident in the city's history… 15 of its victims were brought to one hospital, 14 lived.”

The hospital’s Emergency Response Plan was activated and Social Work was mobilized. I immediately thought who would I need? Were there children involved? Who could get to the hospital after a week of flooding and road closures? Would we need social workers who spoke Mandarin or other dialects? Would we need to activate the Bronx wide Social Work Disaster Response Team?

The first person I called was Regina Riolo, LCSW-R, Supervisor for the Emergency Department, immediately followed by each Social Work Supervisor in the Department. Once it was clear we were activating our disaster plan, we mobilized 10 social workers who practice in the Emergency Department, Medical and Surgical Critical Care, Medicine, Palliative Care and Pediatrics. We arrived at the hospital prepared to respond to the emergency, with minimal information about the victims and their families, not unlike the situations social workers often encounter. However, having been trained in disaster response, we were clear on our roles and confident in being able to effectively work together as a team to meet the needs of the individuals, family members and community. This readiness is the result of a professional social work infrastructure and integration into the hospital emergency response structure that has been developed over many years.

Social Work’s Integrative Role in Emergency Response

Review of the professional literature and experiences of first responders internationally reveals that health care facility disaster planning has focused on the provision of medical care, despite the considerable evidence that health care facilities are often called upon to meet non-medical psychosocial needs of victims of the disaster, and their families, patients and staff. We believe in a best practice model to respond to disaster, the integration of the medical, psychosocial support and mental health treatment systems is essential.

Core Skills Translate to Emergency and Disaster Competencies

Social workers have core crisis intervention skills utilized daily in diverse settings that directly translate to intervention with disasters. Masters level workers are trained in crisis intervention, mental health assessment and counseling, and are familiar with both facilitating and accessing community resources. Social workers in healthcare and other settings address personal emergencies, traumatic loss, bereavement and crisis issues with individuals and family members daily. These crisis competencies reflect “everyday” social work practice, which typically occurs on a smaller scale with a client, family or group. We take the perspective that Emergency and Disaster Response competencies are a core part of Social Work’s scope of practice, similar to our scope of practice and role in Child Abuse and Neglect.

Prior to the events of September 11, 2001 the Emergency Department Social Workers at Jacobi Medical Center had taken steps to be part of the Emergency Operations Plan. They became Red Cross Disaster Mental Health Volunteers and, along with their medical colleagues, attended workshops in Emergency Management. They actively established the Social Work role of psychosocial and mental health disaster response into the facility’s Emergency Operations Plans. By 2000 Social Work at North Bronx Healthcare Network (Jacobi and North Central Bronx Hospital) was seen as a critical component of disaster response.

Formation of the Bronx Emergency Preparedness Coalition (BEPC)

Following September 11, 2001, 13 Bronx Healthcare facilities formed the Bronx Emergency Preparedness Coalition (BEPC) whose purpose was to provide mutual aid in the event of a community wide disaster. This

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included municipal, voluntary, state and federal hospitals, as well as skilled nursing facilities. As part of the BEPC, Social Work leaders from the facilities formed a Social Work subcommittee. Based on our work, what became apparent was how divergent the Social Work role was in each facility during a disaster. Specifically, many social workers were deployed to be part of the general “labor pool” (i.e. feeding, transporting, etc.), rather than being utilized as social workers with expertise in crisis intervention and mental health.

As a result of the coalition's work, in 2006 BEPC applied for and was awarded a grant through the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Healthcare Emergency Preparedness Program to develop two projects to address county wide disasters: 1) To establish the BEPC Surge Capacity and 2) To develop a Social Work Disaster Response Team. This was a 3 phase, multi-year grant from 2006-2009. By 2009 Social Work's role leading the psychosocial and mental health response was incorporated into all 13 of the BEPC Bronx health care facilities’ Emergency Response Plans.

**Competency-Based Training Increases Social Workers’ Readiness for Disaster**

In partnership with the Workplace Center at the Columbia University School of Social Work and NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Healthcare Emergency Preparedness Program, social work leadership developed an inter-agency Social Work Disaster Response Team (SWDRT). The project created and implemented standardized policies and procedures delineating social workers’ roles in a disaster. This included standardized assessment tools, job descriptions, plans for social work deployment to other facilities and plans for a family support center. The competency based education and training curriculum in disaster response that was articulated in the project has been the conduit that brings staff together.

In addition to teaching specific disaster skills, this training helps staff integrate disaster response as a core component of their practice. The 6 hour, 3 session training, developed by the Workplace Center, has been conducted in groups of 20-25 with trainers and staff from the 13 facilities attending together in one setting to parallel the process of deployment. The 3 sessions include: 1) Social Work’s Role in Disaster Preparedness, 2) Understanding and Responding to Secondary Trauma, and 3) Psychological First Aid.

To date, approximately 200 social workers have been trained and training is on-going. Despite everyone's busy schedule and competing agendas, the training sessions continue to be well attended. Self reports from staff’s post training evaluations indicate a greater sense of being confident to respond to disaster. After a recent June school bus accident in Westchester County, the Social Work manager from the responding hospital reported that staff who participated in the SWDRT training were in the forefront of the disaster response and that the staff shared they were better prepared for the situation they had to face.

**Expanding View of Hospitals’ Overall Emergency Response Plans**

In a best practice model, SWDRT provides emergency response competencies to meet the needs of patients and families in a disaster. Advocacy and education with facility leadership resulted in administration recognizing that Social Work is a critical component of the Hospital Incident Command Structure. Thus, SWDRT has resulted in patients and staff viewing Social Work’s role in addressing traumatic incidents in a more expansive way.

The project’s success is the result of the partnership of social work practitioners in healthcare, social work academic researchers at the Workplace Center at Columbia University School of Social Work and public health researchers at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene – each brought the strengths of their skills and experiences.

Like the development of a good disaster plan, the implementation of that plan is dependent on the individuals that work as a team. We wish to acknowledge our team: BEPC facilities Emergency Managers; BEPC Social Work leadership; Lauren Gates, PhD and Virginia Oran-Sabia, LMSW at the Workplace Center; Marni Confino, LCSW-R, Project Administrator; Regina Riolo, LCSW-R and Bill Lane, LCSW-R Deputy Director of Social Work, North Bronx Healthcare Network.

I am grateful for the partnership and collaboration with the BEPC social work leadership. We continue to meet together regularly, brainstorming how to be more effective in preparing for disaster, as well as addressing the complex clinical and systems issues impacting our practice today.
Message From The President

Giving Ourselves Room to Remember, Honor, Memorialize and Move Forward

We probably all remember where we were on the morning of September 11, 2001. I voted in the primary election. Who remembers the beautiful clear blue sky? It was three weeks into my new job at an agency serving homeless individuals, and we were getting ready to hold a meeting with our program directors. One colleague, in shock and surprise, told us she witnessed a plane fly into one of the World Trade Towers on her way to work. We listened in horror, wondered how this terrible accident happened and then learned another plane flew into the second tower. None of us could comprehend the magnitude of the incident or how the terrorist act would change our lives forever.

At first we tried to reach our loved ones and friends to find out who was safe and who was not. We reached out to our program sites to find out about the clients we served. Which staff needed to go home and which ones could stay? Where did we need coverage? How could we do our work and help our clients when we were concerned about our safety as a whole? How would we move forward? Our group mobilized, as many others did, to continue to provide services, assist staff and ourselves to move forward.

All day long we watched the sea of people walk north on Eight Avenue – first a small group then larger and larger – through our office windows, until the late afternoon when the numbers started to dwindle. When I left the office in the evening to go home, my usual walk was no longer so usual. A group of us traveled downtown together. No subways were running. Only emergency vehicles were driving in the city. There was an eerie silence. Stores were closed. Deliveries were halted. There were checkpoints at 14th street, at Houston, Canal and so on. You could not pass the barricades unless you had identification. I convinced the machine gun-carrying national guard I lived downtown. Before then I did not carry identification or my license with me. I did not need to in the USA. As I continued downtown, I saw the St. Vincent Hospital’s medical teams ready for victims who never arrived. Their south wall became an instant shrine and memorial. Makeshift shrines and missing person fliers and photographs lined the streets.

We lived with scores of emergency vehicles: first, NYCHA dump trucks lining Houston Street. When the magnitude of the situation became clear, 18 wheelers, one behind the next, after having their wheels washed down, took debris to the Staten Island landfill or to the barges on the waterfront. Television news crews were everywhere. My community lined up on the West Side Highway with flags and posters to cheer on the World Trade Center Workers and Service Personnel committed to rescue, recovery and then removal.

We went to work every day and waited for ‘things to get back to normal.’ I am not sure they ever did. They did not for the folks who lost their loved ones, colleagues, neighbors and friends. They did not for those who lost their businesses or places of employment. They did not for those of us who once felt safe going anywhere, anytime. And, for those who could not return to their apartments or their jobs until they were cleaned of ash and debris, for those who could not drive their cars into or out from downtown, for those children in school downtown with delayed openings, for those of us who were used to traveling without identification, hopping on a flight at the very last minute, for those of us used to going anywhere in the city we wanted, any time we wanted… things changed very, very slowly.

Depending on which way the wind blew, and it did not always make a difference, the smoke was a vivid reminder to us of the lives lost, our innocence lost and our security at risk. I think we were all a bit on edge from the loss of lives in our community and those at the Pentagon and in Pennsylvania. We were anxious about the ‘next’ attack. Many Social Workers put aside their own fears to assist others who needed help. We volunteered at the Support Centers at 23rd and Lexington and then at the Pier on 57th Street. Social Workers helped people find out about their missing loved ones, connected people to available services – government and nonprofit,

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provided information and referral, and offered support, grief and trauma services.

As we remember the experiences of 9/11, we need to remember and articulate the role Social Workers play in the lives of communities we serve to ensure social justice and social services for all. While many people have been re-building their lives, NYC is re-building the World Trade Center Site as a concrete symbol of hope and remembrance. Perhaps we need to give ourselves the room to remember, to honor, to memorialize and to move forward by continuing in our long and important role as advocates for the people we serve. NASW-NYC needs to partner with our government, nonprofit, academic and private sectors to ensure NYC continues and maintains our strong commitment to our citizens.

Moving into the New Year we need to be mindful of our own association and the direction we are headed. I look forward to working with our newly-elected board members. This year, we have three new officers on the Executive Committee: Martha Adams Sullivan as President-Elect, Thomas Sedgwick as Treasurer and Nancy Miller as Secretary. I am appreciative of the leadership, commitment and support of our Board to tackle the numerous challenges nonprofit organizations face today. I look forward to working with Dr. Jeane Anastas, President of National NASW, and Dr. Betsy Clarke, National NASW’s Executive Director, to make NASW-NYC and National the strongest and most representative membership organization it can be.

October is New York State Behavioral Health Recognition Month

You are cordially invited to the celebration at
The Intrepid Sea Air & Space Museum (Pier 86)
Sunday October 9, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

If you are planning to attend, please reserve your tickets at
http://behavioralmonth.eventbrite.com/

Featured speakers include NASW-NYC Chapter President, Susan Nayowith.

For the first time ever, the New York State Legislature has adopted a resolution to declare October Behavioral Health Recognition Month. It’s all about bringing together the fields of mental health, addictions, and veterans services to spread awareness of the issues, to recognize individuals and their friends and family that are struggling daily with mental illness or substance use disorders, and to honor the professionals that dedicate their life’s work to helping these individuals.

NASW-NYC is an event partner and the event will be televised on Talk Therapy TV. For more information about the celebration visit www.talktherapytv.org.
5th Annual Leadership Awards Dinner

Honoring social work leaders at all levels in the profession in NYC.

Save the Date
Thursday, December 1, 2011
5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Look for your electronic invitation in early November.

We are still accepting nominations to recognize emerging leaders and mid-career exemplary leaders. Please visit our website at www.naswnyc.org to download a copy of our nomination guidelines and forms. The deadline to receive all nominations is Friday, September 23, 2011.

Check out the NASW-NYC Blog!

Now, Even More Ways to Connect With Other Social Workers Through NASW-NYC

The New York City Chapter is pleased to announce the launch of our new blog: NASW-NYC Connections.

Periodic postings by our leadership, staff and members will allow you more opportunities to connect with the community of social workers at NASW-NYC. We encourage you to post your comments and let others know about this new forum for dialogue.

You can access the blog from the homepage of our website: www.naswnyc.org.

If you are interested in the possibility of guest blogging, please contact Launa Kliever, Associate Director and Currents Editor at kliever@naswnyc.org.
Succeeding on the Strength of Our Convictions in Social Work: Breaking Through in Extraordinary Times


In discussing and choosing this year’s theme, members of the Annual Meeting Planning Committee wanted to create a program to help social workers in NYC feel connected to the passion that initially brought them to the profession, especially during these current times of massive budget cuts, increasing responsibilities and dwindling resources. Invited speakers were asked to address this guiding question: What kinds of things can social workers do to unleash that passion and energy to “break through” these difficult circumstances in order to be as creative as we want and need to be?

The meeting began as Chapter President Susan Nayowith took the stage to welcome members of the audience. Many attendees had stopped by the Rally Against Budget Cuts that was taking place simultaneously just several blocks away on Wall Street—an example of the “extraordinary times” we are facing.

Next, Dr. Steven Huberman, Founding Dean of the Touro College Graduate School of Social Work, presented NASW-NYC with a unique gift—a check for over $5,200 which covers membership fees of all incoming MSW students at the School. Touro is the first College in the United States to take such an initiative, and Dean Huberman stated that an annual enrollment check to NASW will be a budget priority in years to come.

Keynote Speaker, Phil Coltoff highlighted the ways in which we, as social workers, must stay grounded in the collective strength of a shared knowledge base, while embracing and incorporating new perspectives that are oriented toward the future, rather than defined by the past. (See page 9 for a full summary of Mr. Coltoff’s remarks.) Featured panelists, Darrell Wheeler and Kalima DeSuze responded to Mr. Coltoff’s speech, and shared experiences from their own careers in which they were able to harness their passion to accomplish extraordinary outcomes with, and on behalf of, clients and communities in NYC.

In celebration of the wonderful work that social workers do, the Chapter recognized four outstanding professionals whose collective work is truly inspiring. Madelyn Miller, LCSW, ACSW, CGP, Chair of the NASW-NYC Disaster Trauma Committee, was the recipient of the Chapter Service Award.

Winners of the Social Work Image Award were selected from over 25 nominations submitted by NYC social workers: Obiageli Blessing Okoronkwo-Egwu, LMSW, ACSW; José R. Ortiz Ortiz, LCSW; and Joanne N. Smith, MSW. Visit our website at www.naswnyc.org to read more about each award winner and to review the nomination criteria for the Social Work Image Award.

Students from each of the schools of social work were recognized at the Annual Meeting for their outstanding...
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The NASW-NYC Student Award recipients were: Cara Aloisio, Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service; Julie Danziger, Adelphi University School of Social Work; Anna M. Erlbaum-Rumelt, Yeshiva University Wurzweiler School of Social Work; Michele Grier, Columbia University School of Social Work; Shelley Gramms, Long Island University School of Social Work; Wendy Kaplan, Lehman College School of Social Work; Adam Lukeman, Touro College Graduate School of Social Work; Maryam Toloui, New York University Silver School of Social Work; and Tammy Williams, Hunter College School of Social Work. The Georgia McMurray Award recipient, presented to only one student selected from nominations from each of the schools, was Contessa Pou, Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service. And through its Second Annual Scholarship Program, NASW-NYC PACE chose two scholarship recipients. Receiving the Miriam Dinerman Memorial Scholarship was Onlielove Alston of Columbia University School of Social Work, and receiving the David Roth Memorial Scholarship was Joan Hunt who attends the Siberman School of Social Work at Hunter College.

Following the Meeting and reception, the Chapter held its first-ever Annual Meeting After Party, an event that turned out to be a hit. Guests purchased $5 tickets to enjoy drink specials and informal networking at a nearby bar. All proceeds went to support the Chapter’s programming.

Plans are under way to hold the 2012 Annual Meeting in March in conjunction with the celebration of Social Work Month. Chapter leadership and staff hope you will join us next year. Please look for the Save-the-Date notice via email.
Indeed these are extraordinary times with unemployment and underemployment affecting 25 million people. Youth unemployment, particularly for minority males can be upwards 40-60%. Food pantries are at their highest use since the Great Depression with many displaying empty shelves. Food stamps and vouchers are at an all time high and the disparity between the wealthy and the poor is the greatest in the last half century. The highest 1% receives 20% of the national income while the bottom 20% shares 5% of the national income. The Pew Charitable Trust recently reported that the annual costs of not treating child abuse and neglect exceeds 103 billion dollars per year.

The profession of social work has always believed in equal opportunity, human rights and dignity for all, and has often served as a voice for the dispossessed and disenfranchised—particularly for the poor, newcomers and for children who do not have a political voice. Historically, the profession of social work has served “a gadfly on the public conscience”. Interestingly, this year’s Pulitzer Prize for Public Service was awarded to journalist who authored stories that represented “significant positive change for our society.” Social workers, not only journalists, deserve similar recognition.

Often we have fulfilled our role as “gadfly” or advocate for the poor, however, there is much that we still must do. NASW having a political action committee, and a Washington D.C. and Albany lobby are good beginnings but only beginnings. Our profession must also serve as a positive “whistle blower”. The leaders of our profession should call to the public’s attention the problems and deficits of our service systems whether it is in the area of children services, programs for senior citizens or neglect in juvenile justice. Too often it is the press or investigative reporters that call attention to these problems. Our profession should serve as an effective monitor of services that are poorly delivered to the populations that we are mandated to serve.

The crisis in public schools ought not to be left to educators alone to solve. Poor children need more than “great principals and great teachers” to be effective learners. Social workers should not only serve a mental health function in public schools, but also partner with educators in assuring that children receive proper nutrition, physical activity, and social development skills to enable them to be responsive learners. Schools should be safe places, open through the evening hours, on weekends, and during the summer months to effectively serve children and families. Our profession, especially youth serving agencies should be equal partners with educators and city government in fostering public school reform and transformation. After all, who is better at community organization and parent outreach than social workers?

Most social agencies have a mission statement but at times that statement is outdated and doesn’t reflect today’s needs. All social agencies should periodically review and analyze their mission with a visionary focus allowing for better service to today’s most vulnerable populations—the homeless, newcomers, unemployed youth, substance abusers, the aging and aged, the disabled, and those who have experienced continuous and great trauma. Too often our limited scope and mission prevents us from reaching out to those who need us the most and to effectively

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challenge the social systems that perpetuates poverty, discrimination and inequality. If we do not move forward, if we are not a dynamic movement of change, we will suffer what the author Jim Collins referred to as “how the mighty fall.” Those organizations that have been able to reinvent themselves to change have thrived, have grown, and have won the support of the public. These organizations have raised considerable sums of money which have enabled them to develop new and relevant programs and services. Collins points out that when we enjoy the respect and sanction of the community, we often receive positive media attention which results in greater public awareness. All organizations can capture a larger share of the 300 billion contributed privately by individuals in 2010 if they present a dynamic and committed face in solving today’s social and environmental problems. The money is there if we know where to look for it, how to access it, and most importantly how to deliver on the promises that we make.

Social work and the non-profit industry have a GNP of 1.5 billion dollars per year. We represent between 25 and 30 million employees nationally. These numbers alone should represent greater influence on the national and local scenes than we currently are exercising. We must find a way of harnessing and leveraging our strengths to better serve the needs of the public, especially those who are underserved. Our national association must play a larger role, a more forceful role and one that expresses the views and opinions of our membership, especially those of our younger membership. Schools of social work need to understand that producing clinicians alone, while important will not solve today’s social problems. We must produce better and greater number of administrators, organizational leaders, political activists, and those who are reform minded leaders.

We have a great opportunity if we do not retreat in the face of adversity, recoil when examining massive social problems and yield our share of the marketplace to other professions. We must be forthright in our leadership, secure in our knowledge base, and committed to our professional identity.
2011 Annual Meeting

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NASW-NYC thanks the many organizations that co-sponsored the 2011 Annual Meeting. Social workers appreciate the meaningful contributions of these organizations which enhance the Chapter’s advocacy and programming.

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FALL 2011 - CONTINUING EDUCATION

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NASW-NYC’s 43rd Addictions Institute Focuses on Spirituality and Science

The Effectiveness of Alcoholics Anonymous and Complementary Approaches to Treatment Were Highlights of Keynote Presentations

This year’s Addictions Institute, held on June 1, 2011 at Fordham University’s Lincoln Center Campus, focused on “Science, Social Work and Spirituality: Bridging Diverse Approaches for Effective Addiction Treatment and Recovery.”

It was an ambitious undertaking, with 51 workshops offered, an all time high for what has been a tradition at NASW since the late 1960s. The Institute is one of NASW’s longest standing programs, both in New York and nationally.

Dr. Marc Galanter, a Professor of Psychiatry and Founding Director at NYU Medical Center’s Division on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, gave a keynote presentation on the history and efficacy of 12-step programs, with a particular focus on Alcoholics Anonymous. Dr. Galanter shared that over 1.1 million people are currently participating in AA programs around the United States in approximately 52,000 groups. Another 930,000 are participating around the world in another 46,000 groups.

He pointed out that with so many groups available, almost everywhere, there is much greater access to help for alcoholism than there would otherwise be. In discussing the effectiveness of AA, Dr. Galanter said that although many people may not be interested in the spiritual aspects of AA, it is often effective regardless of a person’s prior level of religiosity or motivation. He also said that an initial reluctance to enter AA is not a predictor of how one will do. The engagement and social support were noted as especially important.

A second keynote address was given by Dr. Richard Brown, an Associate Professor of Psychiatry at Columbia University. Dr. Brown addressed the theme of “Complementary and Integrative Approaches for Treatment of Drug Dependency” In starting his presentation, Dr. Brown had more than 250 people in attendance on their

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feet doing Chi Gong breathing exercises which he said can be used to help people with trauma and stress to relax. Its effect was probably self-evident as the audience participated. Chi Gong is a form of Chinese exercise that focuses on energy, awareness and breath.

One approach that Dr. Brown discussed was the use of cranial stimulation in dealing with addictions. He said that cranial stimulators are devices someone can put on their head for 20 minutes at a time to increase endorphins and generate brain waves that resembles those of someone doing meditation. He said that he often prescribes 25 such treatments with good results. (For more about Dr. Brown’s work, go to www.haveahealthymind.com.)

Prior to the keynote presentations, David Mineta, Deputy Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy was introduced. Mr. Mineta is a social worker addressing demand reduction and talked about the importance of the profession in prevention and assessment. He expressed special concern about the level of use of marijuana among teens. He said that messages about legalization and the benefits of medical marijuana make it very difficult to get the word out about its harmful effects and its impact on younger people.

Continued from Page 14
Dr. Florence Lieberman, a pioneer of clinical social work in America and one of its leaders for half a century died Wednesday, May 11, 2011 at age 93. She had battled cancer for 25 years, but was still writing professional articles, editing a new book, and counseling clients up to the day of her death.

She was Professor Emerita at the Hunter College School of Social Work where she had taught for 20 years. She was the author, editor and collaborator of many professional books such as Social Work With Children, Clinical Social Workers as Psychotherapists, Before Addiction: How to Help Youth, Strategies in Innovative Human Services Programs, and more recently, Aging in Good Health: A Quality Lifestyle for the Later Years.

After the National Academies of Practice was founded in 1981 to promote dialogue among the various health professions and honor distinguished practitioners, Dr. Lieberman was elected the first President of its Social Work Academy. She also served as President of the International Committee on the Advancement of Private Practice (ICAPP). She was a passionate advocate for higher standards for social workers and was known for her blunt writing and speaking style, exemplified by the titles she gave some of her papers such as The Repulsive Client, The Pathological Therapist, and The Witches: Mothers in Psychotherapy. She used agency, academic and conference venues to help highlight and bring more focus to varied practice and work related issues, such as child abuse in families, adolescent sexuality, drug abuse, and poverty.

Raised in New York City, Florence Lieberman graduated from Hunter College and the Smith College School for Social Work before obtaining her doctorate from the Columbia University School of Social Work. After collaborating on a paper early in her career with the noted German psychoanalyst Peter Blos, she began a prolific pattern of writing and lecturing and entered academia herself, becoming a full professor at Hunter’s Graduate School of Social Work in just five years. Dr. Lieberman received the Day-Garrett Award from the Smith College School of Social Work in 1986. She was elected to the Hunter Hall of Fame in 1994.

She was part of the core group that developed the Society for Clinical Social Work. Not only was she Editor of the Clinical Social Work Journal, but later established and edited a second journal, Childhood and Adolescent Social Work.

In addition to her creative teaching and writing, Dr. Lieberman maintained a private practice for more than half a century. In her 1979 book called Social Work With Children, which became a popular textbook in social work schools, Dr. Lieberman noted that while therapy should never be prolonged, the therapist’s door should never be entirely shut. The message was “if you need me I am here.”

Though legally blind for the last two years of her life, Dr. Lieberman began collaborating on yet another book.

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NASW-NYC Chapter Office
50 Broadway, Suite 1001
New York, NY 10004

**November 4-6, 2011**
- Friday, November 4th: 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
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On June 21, 2011, one of social work’s preeminent scholars, Eda Goldstein, passed away unexpectedly. Known as the authority on the application of psychoanalytic theory to clinical social work practice, Dr. Goldstein’s influence was extensive and her contributions to the profession will be recognized for years to come. She received her DSW from Columbia University and joined the faculty of NYU’s Silver School of Social Work in 1981 where she taught courses in contemporary psychodynamic theory and clinical practice, and held a number of posts including Director of the PhD Program and Chair of the Social Work Practice Curriculum Area. Dr. Goldstein published numerous works, including the well-known and widely-used text, Ego Psychology and Social Work Practice. She served as Chair of the Licensing Task Force for the --- Chapter of NASW, and was a recognized scholar in the National Academy of Practice. Before joining the Silver School faculty, Dr. Goldstein was Assistant Director for Staff Development of the Social Work Department of New York Hospital – Cornell Medical Center’s Westchester Division.

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### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(All meetings held at the Chapter Office unless otherwise specified)

- **Wednesday, September 28, 2011**
  - Addictions Committee Meeting
  - 9:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

- **Monday, October 3, 2011**
  - Social Workers Advancing the Human Animal Bond
  - 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

- **Friday, October 7, 2011**
  - Private Practitioners Group Meeting
  - 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

- **Wednesday, October 12, 2011**
  - NASW-NYC PACE Meeting
  - 6:15 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.

- **Thursday, October 20, 2011**
  - LGBT Committee Meeting
  - 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

- **Wednesday, October 26, 2011**
  - Addictions Committee Meeting
  - 9:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

- **Friday, November 4, 2011**
  - Private Practitioners Group Meeting
  - 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

- **Monday, November 7, 2011**
  - Social Workers Advancing the Human Animal Bond
  - 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

- **Wednesday, November 9, 2011**
  - NASW-NYC PACE Meeting
  - 6:15 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.

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### Online Classifieds and Free Employment Listings

#### ONLINE CLASSIFIEDS

**Classified Ads are now posted online only.** Place your classified ad for Office Space Available, Professional Development Opportunities, Social Work Related Products and Services, and Situations Wanted for .33 cents per character, posted 2-3 business days of receipt for 60 days. Members receive a 15% discount for online classifieds.

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P’alante - Moving Forward: A Call to Action

“Promoting and Supporting Leadership to Strengthen our Latino Community”

A Conference by the Latino Social Work Task Force
Monday, October 17, 2011
8:30am – 4:30pm

Fordham University
Lincoln Center Campus
113 West 60th St.
Graduate School of Social Service
Pope Auditorium

Aims of the Conference

The conference seeks to identify the policy issues confronting the Latino (our) community and the approaches that need to be taken in response to those needs. This includes challenges within the social work workforce to have culturally and linguistically competent professionals. This also includes the impact of policy reforms and restructuring of individual providers and not-for-profit agencies, educational institutions, as well as on Medicaid and mental health. We also plan to address the implications of social work licensing on social workers for whom English is a second language. Of central importance to this conference will be the need for collaborations involving our communities, the social work profession and academia, agencies, foundations and government in order to move Latino leadership and collaboration forward.

To Register: go to www.prft.org and click Latino Social Work Task Force on the lower left side, then look for registration form.

Join Us and Help Us Meet the Challenge.
Connecting Social Workers to Opportunities and Services

The NASW-NYC Marketplace is where NASW-NYC brings social workers into connection with organizations and individuals providing opportunities and services of interest to social workers. Many offerings fill the pages that follow that we think you will find to be helpful, timely and even inspiring. We invite you to take advantage of these opportunities for yourself, and encourage you to consider sharing them with your colleagues.

NASW-NYC MARKETPLACE

- Post-Graduate Training
- Conferences and Workshops
- Social Work Services
- Job Postings
- Social Work Consultation
- Office Space Rentals
Welcome to the New Blythedale.

Our look has changed.

Our outlook hasn’t.

We have big dreams here. In December, born from one such visionary concept, Blythedale will open the doors of its new state-of-the-art children’s hospital—a place where seriously ill children and their families can also dream big...about their health, their future, and the quality of their lives.

Equipped with all of modern medicine’s cutting edge skills and advanced technologies, this unique specialty hospital is poised to change the way we look at treating and rehabilitating children with complex, disabling conditions.

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The new inpatient hospital opens December, 2011. Arrange a pre-opening tour by contacting: Susan Murray, Director of Social Work at susanm@blythedale.org, or call (914) 831-2443.

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December 14 and 15, 2011
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

New York University, Helen and Martin Kimmel Center for University Life

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Currents Advertising Schedule, Rates, and Policies

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