Join Us for the 2010 Advocacy Day

Join NASW Ohio Chapter at the State Capital on Tuesday, March 30th for our annual advocacy day. Advocacy Day is a time for social workers and social work students to bring forward the needs of the profession to the state legislature. We will be advocating for NASW Ohio Chapter’s top two legislative priorities for the year: Workplace Safety and Educational Debt Relief.

The day will begin with a networking reception held at the Ohio Chapter office building, located at 33 N. Third St. in Columbus. The reception is a chance for social workers to meet and chat prior to the start of the event. Light refreshments will be served and information will be provided on advocacy at the state, federal, and international levels. Advocacy Day will be from 11am-3pm at the Statehouse Atrium, where the event was held last year. During lunch a forum will be held on the issue of workplace safety and legislators will be invited to attend. Following the forum a 1 hour training that will provide 1 CEU will be offered on how to be an effective advocate. After the training, attendees will be able to put these new skills into use by meeting with legislators in their offices to discuss workplace safety and educational debt relief.

To offset the cost of providing lunch there will be a registration fee of $10 for students and $15 for non-students.

Please register online at www.naswoh.org.

Agenda:
9:30am-10:30am Networking Reception- Ohio Chapter Office building
11am-11:30am Welcome and Introductions- Statehouse Atrium
11:30am-12:45pm Lunch and Forum on Workplace Safety (Legislators are invited to attend)- Statehouse Atrium
1:00pm-2:00pm 1 hour CEU training on Advocacy- Statehouse Atrium
2:00pm-3:00pm In-office visits with legislators- Statehouse
Financial Responsibility

Financial Responsibility. This is the third of the NASW Ohio Chapter’s four Priority Issues in the Strategic Plan and the one that I will focus on in this newsletter. But first, I have to make a confession – I did not go into social work because I was great with money. Early in my career, my eyes would glaze over when the discussion turned to budgets and money. However, financial responsibility is something that I have come to value over time, especially as my role as a social worker has led to paths in management and administration.

Financial responsibility is essential to the life of any organization, NASW included. I am pleased to report that even in the tough economic times that face our nation right now, NASW Ohio Chapter has remained financially solvent by making fiscally responsible decisions. Surely, we have faced challenges, and those responsible for overseeing the budget have had to respond quickly and efficiently to help us remain in the black.

It’s important to understand where NASW’s income comes from. Our primary source of income is from annual dues from members like you. Our Chapter relies heavily on this source of income, but our dedicated office staff also continually try to find other sources of revenue to support the Chapter and enable us to do more and offer more to members. Continuing education programming and our newly released NASW themed products are a few examples of additional sources of revenue that our creative office staff and board members pursue in order to practice financial responsibility.

Additionally, we rely on the generous donations of time and talents that the volunteer leadership gives to NASW. I am amazed by the incredible work that our volunteer leadership does to move forward the mission and vision of NASW Ohio Chapter. Our volunteer leadership works tirelessly and without them, we could not do what we do.

These limited sources of revenue must be stretched to cover all of our expenses, which are too many and varied to describe in such a limited space. But it is important to point out that our talented leadership has found ways to navigate this challenge in order to maintain our financial responsibility as an organization.

This year brought many challenges, financial and otherwise, to our profession, to NASW as an organization, and to many, many individuals throughout the nation and world. When facing challenges, I find this quote from Joseph Campbell to be a particularly helpful reminder – “Opportunities to find deeper powers within ourselves some when life seems most challenging.” I like to think that this deeper power comes from us growing as individuals and as a collective group to be able to face the challenges that lie ahead.

Despite all of the challenges that 2009 may have presented to you, it is my sincere hope that the new year finds you with strength to face the year ahead and peace to reflect on the blessings and accomplishments of the year past.
“Social Worker”
Our Title and Our Image

The New Year brings a time of reflection, time of resolutions, and time to look forward to the possibilities and opportunities.

We ended this past year with a victory from our effective mobilization as social workers to advocate for the removal of the civil service exemption, which was passed unanimously in the House as an amendment to HB 62 on December 16. Legislator’s offices were filled with phone calls and emails from social workers, and they took notice.

The Civil Service Exemption became a part of the licensing law for social workers in 1984 as a temporary measure out of concern there were not enough licensed social workers to fill all the civil service positions classified as social worker. This exemption allows in civil service settings any one to be hired as a social worker without requirement of professional training or licensure.

This amendment will assure Ohioans that anyone having the job title of social worker would be required to comply with the Ohio Social Work, Counselor and Marriage and Family Therapy law, including the ethical standards set forth. House Bill 62 will now move to the Senate. Please also know that negotiations with law makers, unions, associations, and state departments included assurance that as this amendment moves into law those in current positions would be protected from job loss.

As we pro actively sought to protect the title of social work, I encountered quite interesting comments on the perception of social work but none as unnerving as the one who referred to the title of social work as a “euphemism.” This is why protecting the title “social worker” is so important.

As we gain our title protection we must tackle our image. I believe it will take each of us to take our image campaign from a plan to a movement. We have the capacity to make the change – first we must each accept this as our charge.

If each member recruited a social worker to become a member we would move into mega chapter status, increase our voice at the Statehouse for those we serve and our profession, provide more services on a chapter level to members, and increase our advocacy voice on a National level.

I urge you to share the importance of NASW membership with your peers and urge them to join NASW.

By joining at a cost of $15.33 a month (regular membership dues) they will be investing in their profession.
Advocacy Update

HB8-(CELESTE, T) To prohibit health insurers from excluding coverage for specified services for individuals diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder.

Current Status: 12/8/2009 - Bills for Third Consideration in the Senate’s Insurance, Commerce, and Labor Committee

Position: Support

HB10-(BROWN, E) To allow a court to issue a civil protection order to a child who has had or has a dating relationship with the respondent if certain offenses are alleged and to include foster parents under the scope of the domestic violence laws.

Current Status: 12/2/2009 - REPORTED OUT AS AMENDED, Senate Judiciary - Civil Justice, (Fifth Hearing)

Position: Monitor

HB19-(HARWOOD, S) To require school districts to adopt a dating violence policy and to include dating violence education within the health education curriculum.


Position: Support

HB62 (PRYOR, R) To require relevant military experience to be considered by state licensing boards and agencies and by private state contractors and to provide a waiver of a licensure or certification fee if a veteran is within six months of separation from active military duty.

Current Status: 12/16/2009 - Passed on Third Consideration in the Houses

Position: Support

HB167 (MURRAY, D) To prohibit an employer or a landlord from discriminating against a victim of domestic violence, to allow a victim of domestic violence to take unpaid leave for court proceedings relating to domestic violence.

Current Status: 12/8/2009 - Bills for Third Consideration

Position: Support

HB176 (STEWART, D) To prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity and expression.


Position: Support

SB15 (MILLER, D) To prohibit discrimination in health care policies, contracts, and agreements in the coverage provided for the diagnosis and treatment of mental illnesses and substance abuse or addiction conditions.

Current Status: 3/31/2009 - Senate Health, Human Services and Aging, (First Hearing)

Position: Support

SB21 (TURNER, N) To create a tax credit for the employment of individuals who have previously been convicted of felonies.

Current Status: 2/12/2009 - Referred to Committee Senate Ways and Means and Economic Development

Position: Support

SB35 (STEWART, J) To pursue a memorandum of agreement that permits the enforcement of federal immigration laws in the state by law enforcement officers.

Current Status: 3/10/2009 - Senate State and Local Government and Veterans Affairs, (Second Hearing)

Position: Oppose

SB55 (FEDOR, T) To establish standards for comprehensive sexual health education in public schools, to create the Office of Healthy Schools within the Department of Education, to require the State Board of Education to adopt health education standards closely modeled after the National Health Standards, and to designate section 3313.6011 of the Revised Code as the “Act for Our Children’s Future.”

Current Status: 2/18/2009 - Referred to Committee Senate Education

Position: Support

SB67 (FABER, K) To require sexually violent predators who are released from prison be monitored by global positioning system devices, to require sexually violent predators to pay the cost of monitoring by global positioning system devices, and to authorize the civil commitment of certain sexually violent predators.

Current Status: 5/6/2009 - Senate Judiciary - Criminal Justice, (Second Hearing)
Happy New Year and welcome to the second half of the 128th Ohio General Assembly! NASW-Ohio and New Visions Group LLC have been working on several issues that aim to improve the lives of your clients and the working conditions of the social work profession.

As you may know, this past November Issue 3 passed in Ohio, which means that casinos are on the way to Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Toledo. This also means that social workers will be in demand as many of the social ills that follow casinos such as gambling addiction, homelessness and domestic violence will be prevalent. We are not telling you this to scare you, but to make you aware that it is a fact that casinos attract other things than jobs and economic prosperity to communities.

Having said that, it is imperative that the professionals that will be treating victims of gambling addiction and other social ills have the proper credentials to give them the proper care. This is why we are working diligently to pass House Bill 62 which houses our amendment for civil service exemptions or “title protection.” Representative Jay Goyal (D-Mansfield) has been very helpful to us in pushing the language through the Veteran Affairs Committee. As we work through this piece of legislation, we will keep you abreast of new developments.

House Bill 281, the mental health hold legislation, has had its first hearing in the house judiciary committee. The sponsor of the bill State Representative Kenny Yuko (D-Cleveland) gave his sponsor testimony and is working with members in the house to garner support and gather co-sponsorships. NASW-Ohio supports this legislation that is being spearheaded by the counselors.

Lastly, 2010 will be a BIG election year here in Ohio. Please make sure the NASW-Ohio voice is heard by contributing to PACE. Your commitment to PACE will help drive the advocacy work you care about here in Columbus.

Until the next time, remember…Stay involved, stay active and support NASW-Ohio. Thank you for all you do and the opportunity to represent your interests here in the State Capital.

CALL TO ACTION: ATTENTION ALL SOCIAL WORKERS

By: Annie Davis MSW, LSW
Chair Legislative Committee

Go ahead and ask me to read it the next time you see me… it’s okay… I’ve had it with me for awhile. Sometimes it’s a little worn around the edges, and has had a coffee (…or two) spilled on it, but I keep one with me until it’s full, and start over. I fish it out of my handbag amongst the cell phone, wallet, planner, and keys, asking friends, neighbors, and individuals in grocery store lines, if they would mind signing it. You’re probably wondering what I’m talking about, and I’ll tell you in a moment: My hope is that you will start carrying one around too.

As you have probably read in our last NASW Ohio newsletter, we are trying to reach our goal of getting 10,000 signatures for the Educational Debt Relief petition in Ohio to show legislators that there is considerable interest. Educational debt and workplace safety are two issues that I am passionate about, as so many social workers are leaving the field within 5 years due to lower pay and safety concerns. Traditionally social workers have been amazing advocates for their clients, often going above and beyond what their job description requires in order to serve and assist others. Because of this passion and advocacy for clients, it is difficult for social workers to think of themselves and our sustainability in our professions. In fact, many social workers I talk to are so
William J. Brown, a Youngstown native who was Ohio’s longest serving attorney general and who died of a sudden heart attack 10 years ago, held this job in the early 1970s, when the state finally began to get serious about protecting consumers.

Ohio was one of the last states to pass a comprehensive law protecting consumers. The Consumer Sales Practices Act, signed into law in 1972, protects Ohioans from unfair and deceptive business practices, among many other provisions. Backed by that law, Brown used this office to protect consumers, as have his successors, including myself.

Back then, Brown made an observation that almost certainly remains true today: “I doubt if there is a citizen today who hasn’t helped line the pockets of some dishonest person who has taken advantage of the natural, trusting nature of the American consumer,” he said.

Scammers, thieves and cheats often try to separate consumers from their hard-earned money by pretending to be someone else. In the name of making a quick buck, they will do just about anything.

I should know – they apparently are trying to pass themselves off as members of my office, right now.

My office has been receiving reports of a scam in which callers pose as representatives of the Attorney General’s office. The callers ask for Social Security numbers. We know that these scam artists are particularly assertive and in at least one instance have used threats of arrest and job loss. Please rest assured that we would never ask for such personal information and you should refuse to give it to me or anyone else unless you are quite clear on the reasons why you would really want to do so.

This scam confirms Brown’s observation from more than three decades ago: Scammers pretend to be someone regular people think they can trust – in this case, my office – in order to manipulate consumers. With a person’s Social Security number in hand, there is no telling what damage a scammer can do.

Scams such as these happen all the time. Earlier this year, scammers used buzz words like “stimulus package” and “Cash for Clunkers” to get people’s attention and give themselves the appearance of propriety. Veterans were targeted by scammers who said that the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs recently changed its procedures on dispensing prescriptions and then asked for the veteran’s credit card number.

Those who feel they have been scammed can file formal complaints at my office’s Web site, www.SpeakOutOhio.gov, or (800) 282-0515.

If you have avoided a scam but have still noticed something fishy – something that sounds like the veterans phone scam, for instance – please also let us know so we can get the word out to others.

When my office finds out about scams or shady business practices, we will take action if we can. In our robust role as the state’s consumer watchdog, my office’s Consumer Protection Section tries to root out unscrupulous businesses who try to enrich themselves by cheating Ohioans.

Complaints can help us build cases that hold businesses accountable for their actions. For instance, after receiving more than 240 complaints against a wallpaper company, we sued the company, alleging that it accepted payment for wallpaper and other home decoration items but then failed to deliver the goods or to refund the payments.

Without hearing from consumers, we might not have known to pursue this lawsuit.

Thanks to Bill Brown’s legacy of strong state consumer laws, my office has the tools to protect consumers. With your help, we can use them most effectively.

Save the Date…

NASW Ohio Chapter and The Ohio State University College of Social Work present...

A one day conference on April 16, 2010 titled Responding to the needs of Ohio Veterans and Service Members: Essential Tools to be held in Columbus

The demand for health, mental health, and human services for veterans and their immediate families will grow dramatically in the coming years. We are called to provide competent services to the large, diverse population of veterans in Ohio. To address this need, OSU and NASW, OH Chapter have partnered to sponsor a one day conference to provide essential tools in identifying and responding to the specific needs of veterans and their families.

Updates on the conference will be available online and in the next newsletter.
The Value of Human Beings: Dollar or Dignity?

By: Erin Michel
NASW Ohio Intern

What is the dollar value of the person who is enslaved in either labor or sex trafficking? The answer: anywhere between tens of thousands to millions of dollars. What is the measure of dignity of the person who is enslaved in either labor or sex trafficking? The answer: zero. These values are assigned not only by the traffickers who benefit from human exploitation, but also by the Johns who purchase sexual services, by the consumers who purchase goods produced in labor camps, and by the governments that do not protect their citizens from exploitation.

How would you define the following statements?

- “[Jayati and her husband] were bonded laborers at a rice mill in India for more than 30 years. From 2 a.m. to 6 p.m. every day, they separated and boiled rice, often suffering burns, injuries and illnesses. The owner of the mill threatened to hurt them if they tried to leave. Their children were forced to quit school and work alongside them in the mill. Their grandchildren were born into bonded servitude.”

- “[Anita was trafficked from Nigeria through Ghana to Italy, where she was forced to have sex with more than 25 men a day. If she resisted, her ‘madam’ would beat her with a belt, starve her, and threaten to deport her. Anita would rotate through Turin, Rome, and Milan, enduring mental torture and physical abuse at each base. Anita’s traffickers raped her several times, and she underwent several crude abortions. Anita survived, but some of her friends died in the ordeal.”

- “[Anita] was tricked from Nigeria through Ghana to Italy, where she was forced to have sex with more than 25 men a day. If she resisted, her ‘madam’ would beat her with a belt, starve her, and threaten to deport her. Anita would rotate through Turin, Rome, and Milan, enduring mental torture and physical abuse at each base. Anita’s traffickers raped her several times, and she underwent several crude abortions. Anita survived, but some of her friends died in the ordeal.”

- “[When [Rosita] was 15 years old, a man walked up to her outside her middle school in Columbus, Ohio, and told her she needed to work for him. He turned out to be a pimp. He would take me to this office space that someone was leasing out to him and he would set up dates, Rosita said. She spent the next three years averaging eight customers a day - $150 a piece - all of it went to her pimp. ‘I just felt like I was put out to die,’ Rosita said.”

Did you answer “exploitation,” “slavery,” “rape,” “torture,” “forced labor,” “child prostitution”? All of these words describe the atrocious treatment these survivors have endured. However, under federal law, each of these crimes is classified as “human trafficking.”

In 2000, Congress enacted the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act and established a federal definition of human trafficking:

a) sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion or in which the person induced to perform such an act is under 18; or

b) the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion, for the purpose of subjecting that person to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery. (P.L. 106-386, § 103 (8))

The term “human trafficking” implies that transportation is an element of the crime, but traffickers do not necessarily have to transport their victims. The emphasis of the legal definition is on “force, fraud, or coercion.” The only exceptions to the three criteria are in cases of sex trafficking involving children because minors, in fact, cannot legally consent to sexual activity. The sex trafficking provision can be explained as restricting the freedom of a person to compel him or her to provide sexual services in exchange for money or other valuables. The labor trafficking provision can be explained as restricting the freedom of a person to compel him or her to provide sexual services in exchange for money or other valuables. The labor trafficking provision can be explained as restricting the freedom of a person to compel him or her to provide sexual services in exchange for money or other valuables. The labor trafficking provision can be explained as restricting the freedom of a person to compel him or her to provide sexual services in exchange for money or other valuables. The labor trafficking provision can be explained as restricting the freedom of a person to compel him or her to provide sexual services in exchange for money or other valuables. The labor trafficking provision can be explained as restricting the freedom of a person to compel him or her to provide sexual services in exchange for money or other valuables.

Because the definition of human trafficking exists in the commercial sex industry. It is common for people to dismiss individuals working in prostitution, stripping, pornography, massage parlors, etc. as making a choice. It is assumed that if people did not want to be involved in such activities, then they would leave the situation. However, not everyone involved in the commercial sex industry has a choice when entering, nor do they necessarily have the choice to leave, as survivor testimonies demonstrate, because their captors break down their will power and destroy their hopes of escaping. The same is true in labor trafficking cases. Therefore, we as a society are confronted with redefining how we view the victimization of men, women, and children.

The difference between historical slavery dating back to ancient times, as compared with contemporary slavery in the form of human trafficking, is that owning other human beings is now illegal throughout the world. The abolition of slavery is derived from the fundamental legal and ethical principle of human dignity. Are we all human beings, or are some of us property? Are we defenders of the standards of social justice and the preservation of health, freedom, and liberty? Or are we tolerant of the conditions of oppression and the preservation of greed, self-interest, and contempt for human life? Like in any unjust situation, there are perpetrators, victims, bystanders, and rescuers. We must realize that human trafficking exists at the present moment and will continue to persist if we, as individuals and as a society, do not punish traffickers, protect victims, and prevent future trafficking by addressing demand for cheap labor and the commercial sex industry. We must recognize that the value of human life is measured in the universal respect for human dignity, not the valuation of the dollar.

Support Social Work in the CFC, NASW Foundation #12538!
Social Work Reinvestment is a social issue. Social workers provide much needed services, care, and assistance to members of society across the spectrums of age, gender, geography, income level, race, ethnicity, and spirituality. Put simply, social workers impact lives. We now have an opportunity window for furthering Social Work Reinvestment Initiatives with eminent health care reform legislation. The National Association of Social Workers released the following Government Relations Action Alert, which stipulates the specific social work-related provisions in the Senate health care reform legislation.

**SW Reinvestment Included in Health Care Reform**

**Senate Health Reform Bill Includes Key SWRI Provisions**

The new Senate health reform legislation, “Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act” includes a number of key provisions from the Social Work Reinvestment Initiative (SWRI). The legislation formally began debate on the Senate floor on November 30 and is expected to undergo weeks of scrutiny before anticipated Senate passage. If the bill does not pass with these provisions they will remain in the Dorothy I. Height and Whitney M. Young Jr. Social Work Reinvestment Act (HR 795 and S 686) NASW thanks Senator Mikulski for her work on health care reform and on inserting this language from her SWRA bill into health care reform.

Of particular interest is the authorization for up to $8 million over three years (2010-2013) for social work education and training grants in mental and behavioral health. Section 5306 amends section 756 of the Public Health Services Act with language originally drafted for the Dorothy I. Height and Whitney M. Young Jr., Social Work Reinvestment Act regarding the qualifications of institutions eligible for these training grants and regarding the requirement that at least four grants go to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) or Minority Serving Institutions (MSI).

Following are the key provisions in the bill addressing social work professional education and training needs:

Sec. 3508. Demonstration program to integrate quality improvement and patient safety training into clinical education of health professionals. Establishes a discretionary program at the HHS Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) authorizing grants to academic institutions to develop and implement academic curricula that integrate quality improvement and patient safety into health professionals’ clinical education. Schools of social work are among the eligible grantees.

Sec. 5101. National health care workforce commission. Establishes a national commission tasked with reviewing health care workforce and projected workforce needs. The overall goal of the Commission is to provide comprehensive, unbiased information to Congress and the Administration about how to align Federal health care workforce resources with national needs. Congress will use this information when providing appropriations to discretionary programs or in restructuring other Federal funding sources. The needs of the social work profession are among those that would be considered by the commission and schools of social work also have representation.

Sec. 5102. State health care workforce development grants. Competitive grants are created for the purpose of enabling State partnerships to complete comprehensive planning and to carry out activities leading to coherent and comprehensive health care workforce development strategies at the State and local levels. Grants will support innovative approaches to increase the number of skilled health care workers such as health care career pathways for young people and adults. All health professions are eligible for state planning attention, including social work.

Sec. 5203. Health and behavioral health workforce loan repayment programs. Establishes a loan repayment program for pediatric subspecialists and providers of mental and behavioral health services to children and adolescents who are or will be working in a Health Professional Shortage Area, Medically Underserved Area, or with a medically underserved population. Loan repayment funding for behavioral health providers, including social workers, is proposed at $20 million per year for four years.

Sec. 5305. Geriatric education and training; career awards; comprehensive geriatric education. Authorizes funding to geriatric education centers to support training in geriatrics, chronic care management, and long-term care for faculty in health professions schools and family caregivers; develop curricula and best practices in geriatrics; expand the geriatric career awards to advanced practice nurses, clinical social workers, pharmacists, and psychologists; and establish traineeships for individuals who are preparing for advanced education nursing degrees in geriatric nursing.

Sec. 5306. Mental and behavioral health education and training grants. Awards grants to schools for the development, expansion, or enhancement of training programs in social work, graduate psychology, professional training in child and adolescent mental health, and pre-service or in-service training to paraprofessionals in child and adolescent mental health.

Section 756 of the Public Health Services Act is amended to include language regarding the qualifications of institutions eligible for these training grants and that at least four will go to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) or Minority Serving Institutions (MSI). Authorization for up to $8 million in funds is provided for social work.
Social Workers- Please Complete the Workplace Safety Survey

Please take this survey to gather information on workplace safety in the social work profession. Your responses will be included, anonymously, in a report that will be shared with local agencies, professional associations and policy makers with the goal of strengthening our profession's safety practices.

Thank you for agreeing to take this survey. Please note that your participation is voluntary. Survey responses will be reported anonymously, and your confidentiality will be protected at all times.

Age:
Race:
Gender:
Number of years in practice:
Practice setting:
Population: (Adults, children, school-based, inpatient/residential, mental health)

1. For each of the statements presented below, please indicate whether you Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D), Strongly Disagree (SD), or are Neutral (N), that is you neither Agree or Disagree.

   a. I consider client violence toward social workers to be a significant issue for the social work profession in general.
   b. Client violence toward social workers is a significant issue in my practice.
   c. I sometimes worry about my own safety while working with clients. If you Strongly Agree or Agree with this statement, please estimate how many times you worried about your safety in the past year.
   d. I prefer to not work with clients who are or may be violent.

2. Concern for my safety on the job causes me to feel: (check as many that apply)

   __stressed out
   __nervous
   __burned out
   __uninterested in spending time with friends and family
   __uninterested in my hobbies
   __like I want to find a different job

3. Please identify specific strategies that you use now or have used in the past to stay safe while working with clients in the office.

4. Please identify specific strategies that you use now or have used in the past to stay safe while working with clients on home visits or other field settings.

5. Please identify specific strategies that your agency/employer uses to help you stay safe while working with clients in the office.

6. Please identify specific strategies that your agency/employer uses to help you stay safe while working with clients on home visits or other field settings.

7. Have you ever received any training in how to intervene with violent and potentially violent clients? (Yes/No) If Yes, where was the training provided? (check as many that apply):

   __as part of my social work academic coursework
   __as part of my student field placement
   __at my agency
   __a training I sought out independently
   __other (please specify)

8. If you answered Yes to the above question, to what extent did the training meet your needs? (If you attended more than one, please answer about the most recent training)

   __Fully met my needs
   __Mostly met my needs
   __Somewhat met my needs
   __Not at all

9. If you answered No to question 7, would you want to take part in a training program if it were available? (Yes/No). Why or why not?

10. Does your employer make workplace safety a high priority? Why or Why not?

11. Do you and your colleagues have the opportunity to discuss safety concerns with each other and supervisors on a regular basis?

12. Does your employer use a formal safety policy?

13. Has your employer implemented an agency safety task force?

14. Does your employer support two staff making home visits in high risk situations?

15. Do police or other partner agencies in the community ever accompany you or other staff on home visits in high risk situations?

16. Does your employer have a formal policy about how the agency will respond to staff who have experienced client violence? If so, explain:

Other comments:

Please complete the survey and send it to:
NASW Ohio Chapter
Mail- 33 N. Third St., Suite 530, Columbus, OH 43215
Fax- 614-461-9793
E-mail- info@naswoh.org
I would like to take this opportunity to say farewell to the wonderful members in Region One. I relocated to Northeast Ohio to be nearer my family and friends in December. I regret leaving the Region One position and look forward to becoming involved with NASW in my new region. Thanks for all your help and support.

Region II – Akron Area
Regional Director: Lesley K. Anderson
(e) lesleia@scmbws.org

The business meeting for November went well and speakers for the year of 2010 has been completed. Also discussed at the meeting were the details of two workshops scheduled for the spring of 2010.

1 CEU Presentation:
Wednesday, January 27, 2010:
The speaker for the January meeting is Donald Lykes and will speak on Fatherhood Initiative

1 CEU Presentation:
Wednesday, February 24, 2010:
The speaker for the February meeting is Taba Al- een, MA and Michele Green, LSW, from Planned Parenthood. Taba and Michele will speak on Talking to Youth on Sexuality.

New Members:
Region II continues to invite new and current members to its meetings. All are invited to attend our monthly meeting held on the forth Wednesday of the month, from 8:30am – 10:30am at Greenleaf Family Center, 212 E. Exchange Street in Akron. RSVP your attendance to Lorraine Ellithorp at (330) 376-9494, ext. 231 or Lesley Anderson at (330) 836-2940, ext. 104.

Region III – Cleveland Area
Regional Director: Molly Martin, LISW-S
(e) mollymartin.lisw@gmail.com

As 2009 has wrapped up, Region 3 is looking forward to a productive New Year. We’ll kick off 2010 with the initial meeting of a Region 3 Advocacy Team, to be focused on identifying significant local issues that impact our profession, and developing action steps for effectively addressing them. All are welcome, and I look forward to meeting current and new members over the coming months. I certainly welcome your ideas, questions and concerns. Please don’t hesitate to get in touch.

The Steering Committee meets the first Wednesday of every month (although in January we'll meet on the second Wednesday) at 8am at Artefino’s at 1900 Superior Ave. Our next meeting will be held on January 13, 2010. All are welcome--just email me to let me know if you plan to attend.

We’ll continue to use our email list to help the region stay connected. Please email me if you’d like to join the list or confirm that you’re on it. Also, feel free to send me information that you’d like to share with our region, such as trainings, job opportunities or social action issues.

Keep an eye out for a Region 3 calendar due out in the next few weeks!

See below for upcoming regional events:
Region 3 Steering Committee Meeting:
When: Wednesday, January 13, 2010, 8am to 9am
Where: Artefino Coffee Shop Meeting Room
1900 Superior Ave.
Cleveland, OH

Region 3 Advocacy Team Meeting:
Saturday, January 30, 2010 from noon-1:30pm at the Panera Bread meeting room at 5090 Tiedeman Rd., Cleveland, OH 44144. Please RSVP to me by January 29th by e-mail or at 216.644.1024.

Stay tuned for the Region 3 2010 Calendar with a complete listing of upcoming events.

Region IV – Youngstown Area
Regional Director: Bradley S. Smith, MSW
(e) bsmith78@sbcglobal.net

The January regional meeting has been scheduled for January 7th, 11am at Belmont Pines Hospital prior to the Lunch & Learn. Potentially more meetings may be scheduled at this time slot. Subsequent meetings have been scheduled for February 16th and March 16th. The February and March meetings will take place at Turning Point, located at 611 Belmont Ave. in Youngstown.

Those wishing to nominate social workers for awards need to email the packet to me. If you have not received the packet from the state, I can email them to you upon request. I need to receive completed packets by February 15th in order for the nominations to be considered for awards. If you would like to participate on the awards committee, please feel free to attend upcoming Reg. IV meetings or contact me.

I would like to thank those of you who came to Cracker Barrel for the Holiday Bash. Also, thank you to those who took time out of their busy Christmas Eve to serve lunch at St. Vincent DePaul's. Finally, please refer to the naswoh.org website for further news. Our region has our schedule of events and meetings posted at the website under the “Calendar” tab.

Be safe on these northeast Ohio winter roads!

Region V – Columbus Area
Regional Director: Teri Kinsway
(e) kinsway.1@osu.edu

Region V is holding a three hour CEU workshop on January 15th on Rain in a Dry Land: Film & Discussion. The workshop is from 9am-12:15pm at the American Red Cross, located at 995 E. Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43205. Rain in a Dry Land chronicles two Somali Bantu refugee families during their first 18 months in the United States. The story begins with cultural training in Kenya,
follows their relocation to the United States, and their struggles with adapting to a new place.

Following the film, discussion will be lead by Karina Harty-Morrison, MA on the role of social workers and refugee resettlement. Karina is employed at Community Refugee and Immigration Services.

The workshop is $45 for NASW Members and $70 for non-members. Register online at www.naswoh.org.

Region VI – Cincinnati Area
Regional Director: Tina Bowen (e) tina.bowen@uc.edu

Region 6 is currently accepting nominations for the 2010 Leadership Awards. Please consider nominating a social worker or public elected official. The deadline has been extended to January 19, 2010. Please contact Tina Bowen via email at Tina.Bowen@uc.edu for more information on nomination criteria or for an official nomination application.

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Social Work Ethics by Susan Carlson MSW, LISW-S, Director of Field Education, University of Cincinnati, School of Social Work, 3 CEUs, 5:30 – 8:45 p.m., $45 for NASW members and $60 for non-NASW members. The workshop will be held at Lighthouse Youth Services’ new location at 401 E. McMillan Street. Check-in and refreshments prior to the listed start time. Register for the workshop online at www.naswoh.org.

Region VII – Dayton Area
Regional Director: Jacqueline McKenzie MASM, LSW, LICDC, ICCS (e) jacquelinemckenzie@sbcglobal.net

NASW Ohio Region VII seeks to be a leader in membership and continues to want more participation from rural communities. Please send any suggestions to Jacqueline McKenzie. Success is measured by you, so keep up the good work!

Do you have a workshop you would like to research and present for NASW Ohio Chapter? What types of workshop topics are you interested in? What locations and times work best for you? Please let me know what your opinion is so we can best serve you. E-mails and telephone calls are appreciated!

Region VIII- Canton Area
Regional Director: Jane Hoyt-Oliver (e) jholiver@malone.edu

Region 8 met in December on World AIDS day. We heard a presentation about the state of services provided to those who are HIV positive in the Regional area. We discussed the awards banquet, and Jane Hoyt-Oliver, Region 8 Director, requested that participants send in nominees for awards by January 15th. In addition, issues surrounding the Federal health care debate were discussed. There will be several opportunities to assist with advocacy in this area. Jane will keep members informed of formal training and other advocacy events.

We will not meet in January. Tentative plans are for a meeting in the Canton area in Feb. to discuss the state of health care on the Federal Level. During March, we hope to have our meeting in the Southwestern part of our region and in late April we will have the awards banquet. Please watch for blast e-mails for further updates!

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Support NASW and show off your social work pride with NASW merchandise.
Buy online at www.naswoh.org
One Last Thank You to Our 2009 Annual Conference Sponsors

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Carington Health Systems
Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley
Cedarville University Social Work Program
Children’s Defense Fund-Ohio
Cleveland State University School of Social Work
College of Mt. St. Joseph, Department of Social Work
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Dayton Rehabilitation Institute
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Defiance College, Social Work Program
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The Ohio School Social Work Association (OSSWA)
The Ohio State University College of Social Work
The Village Network
United Methodist Children’s Home
University of Akron, School of Social Work
University of Toledo, Social Work Department
Ursuline College, Social Work Program
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White Deer Run/Cove Forge/Bowling Green
White’s Residential and Family Services
Xavier University, Social Work Program
Youngstown State University, Social Work Department

THANK YOU
to all of our volunteers!
Purpose and Possibility - 2009 Annual Conference

Pictures from the bottom left hand corner: Current NASW Intern Erin Michel and 2008-2009 Intern Nichole Erwin; NASW Treasurer Victoria Marion and NASW Ohio Executive Director Cindy Webb; International Service Committee Member Dorothy Faller; and PACE Chair Bob Littmann
The pre-conference featured a screening of the film *Athena*, a documentary that follows a woman who is trying to win custody of her children. The discussion was facilitated by the director of the film, Nicole Tarver (pictured above), and the subject of the film, Athena.
Student Poster Presentations

For the first time at an NASW Ohio Chapter conference student poster presentations were held. NASW members from university social work programs served as the judges and undergraduate and graduate posters were judged separately. Seven posters were presented from students at The Ohio State University, Case Western Reserve University, and Miami University of Ohio.

Pictured above is the winning undergraduate poster winner, Phyone Tai, now a student at Case Western Reserve University. Phyone’s poster title was “Emotion Context Insensitivity: Family Context and Transmission of Depression Risks.”

Pictured above is the winning graduate poster winners, Allie Boester, Aidyn Iachini, and Anna Ball from The Ohio State University. The poster title was “Social Work Practice with Children: A Sport-Based Intervention.”
Oscar, Emmy, Pulitzer Prize: if there were prizes for an award-winning production, the Ohio Chapter should be polishing off the shelf where the award would stand. Instead, social workers arrived in Columbus for the annual conference expecting the best, and left feeling fulfilled as professionals, some with books, bags full of freebies, gifts for colleagues, and surely challenged to extend their reach. Networking with the vendors and social workers of diverse backgrounds is always a plus for yours truly. I hope to give the readers just a thimble full of what I gleaned from this two-day experience.

The theme: “Purpose and Possibility: Domestic and International Perspectives on Social Work” was carried out in presentations, displays, and expertise. The tradition for NASW Ohio Chapter is to meet in Columbus for a whirlwind of exposure to educational opportunities. Not only was there time to learn, network across the state, visualize our future as professionals, and earn continuing education units.

A first was a chance to earn credits by viewing films: one called “Rain in a Dry Land.” This was facilitated by the International Service Committee. This film chronicled the resettlement of two Somali refugee families in the United States. That evening we met “Athena,” principal character at the second film of the day. The film by the same name was a short documentary produced by a former child protection worker who is now winner of the New York Women in Film and Television Award. The heart-rendering true story was a revelation to some and soul wrenching for the crowd.

This year’s conference featured two outstanding keynoters with extensive expertise on the health delivery system. Charles L. Robbins, DSW, has a distinguished career in academia and is also an official NGO delegate to the United Nations representing the International Association of School of Social Work. He presented both a domestic and global insight including such issues as social justice, public health, violence as a public health crisis and between domestic partners.

The luncheon speaker was Mrs. Patricia S. Meadows, MSSW, who has an equally distinguished career, working her way up the ladder in medical social work, being recruited to work in academia, and currently serving as Executive Director of National Conference for Community and Justice of Greater Dayton. She defined Health Care Quality as “doing the right thing at the right time, in the right way, for the right people, and having the best possible results.” My friend Pat has received many accolades for her contributions for the greater good, most recently “Top Ten Woman in Dayton” and YWCA Woman of Distinction, both fall of 2009.

The conference, included for the third consecutive year, an array of international topics. Chair of the International Service Committee, Karina Harty-Morrison and our social work guru, Dorothy Faller, together with members of the committee helped provide a full stand of offerings.

Speaking of the international connection, five years ago, a social worker from Japan contacted the NASW office and inquired about ways to earn continuing education units. She attended the conference then and has returned to Ohio every year since to attend our conference and also visit her alma mater, the University of Findlay. She and I have become friends, exchanging gifts and emails almost every year. Her name is Yachiyo Tanako (pictured), who earned her MSW, and is employed at a sheltered workshop in Niigata, Japan.

She described her experience at our conference in 2001 by saying, “I met a lot of professionals and each occasion gave me a chance to explore myself as a social worker. …I learned that American social workers and the professional organization are facing the same difficulties as we are.”

What more can I report? Only that this was the bargain of the year. If you missed it, you missed out. This production, under the leadership of Cindy Webb, Executive Director, Danielle Smith, and Marie Milo and the Conference Planning Committee was exceptional.
Nominations are Open for the 2010 NASW Ohio Chapter Awards

Do you know someone who deserves to be recognized for their commitment to the values and field of social work? If so, nominate them for a 2010 NASW Ohio Chapter Regional Award. Download an awards criteria form and nomination form at www.naswoh.org. In June, each award winner from each of the regions will be considered for the State award. The State award winners will then go on to be considered for the National award.

SOCIAL WORKER OF THE YEAR AWARD
The Social Worker of the Year Award honors a member of the NASW/Ohio Chapter 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.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
Each year, the NASW Ohio Chapter selects a social worker for this state award to celebrate a lifetime of accomplishments. In honoring the Lifetime Achievement Award recipient, NASW Ohio Chapter recognizes the best social work values and accomplishments demonstrated in the social worker’s lifetime career.

OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD
Each year, the NASW Ohio Chapter selects a social worker for this state award for Outstanding Service. In honoring the recipient, NASW Ohio Chapter recognizes the best social work values and accomplishments demonstrated in the social worker’s NASW activities.

PUBLIC ELECTED OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR AWARD
Elected officials make decisions about a broad range of issues that, when enacted into law, represent the collective values of our society. Of particular interest to the social work profession are policies that affect social justice, health care, education, civil and human rights, and social work practice. In recognition of the responsibilities and challenges of public service, NASW established an annual award to recognize the outstanding service and contributions of an elected official. Special consideration will be given to social workers elected to public office.

PUBLIC CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD
The NASW Ohio Chapter established the Public Citizen of the Year Award to honor an outstanding member of the community whose accomplishments exemplify the values and mission of professional social work. The award recipient is not a social worker.

STUDENT AWARDS- MSW and BSW STUDENT OF THE YEAR
Each year, a student member from a CSWE accredited school of social work is selected as either the BSW or MSW Student of the Year.
From the Director of the CSWMFT Board

By: James Rough
Counselor, Social Worker & Marriage and Family Therapist Board
Executive Director

The board is working with NASW to eliminate the civil service exemption from section 4757.41 of the Revised Code. We have garnered the support of many state agencies, the union and mental health associations. NASW’s lobbyist Ed Hogan has been very effective at getting legislators to support this amendment with some help from Cindy Webb and me. I want to thank Representatives Celeste, Goyal, Otterman and Pryor for helping us make this change. This has been a long time goal of the board and NASW.

The Social Worker Professional Standards Committee has voted to change the rules that apply to social worker’s renewals in two ways. The board will be changing the rule to allow social workers to have all thirty hours of continuing education via distance learning. The board will also be changing the rule to allow national social work associations to more easily be approved as continuing education providers. We will need to draft the rules and complete the rule making process. These changes may be in place by late summer.

The ASWB examination fees are going up effective 1/1/2010. The Bachelor’s exam will cost $230 and the Advanced Generalist and Clinical exams will cost $260. You are eligible to apply in your last quarter/semester in which you will graduate. You will need a letter from your school stating that you are on track to graduate on “DATE”. In order to receive examination pre-approval you apply for a license and receive exam approval. You only need to apply once and that application is valid for two years. If you fail the exam, you will not need to reapply unless it takes you two years to pass.

An issue, which comes up regularly, is social work graduates who have passed the exam wanting to call themselves ‘social worker’ at work. You cannot use the term social worker in Ohio without a license from the board. After passing the exam please follow up with the board to complete the licensing process and then proudly call yourself a “Licensed Social Worker!”

Ohio Social Work Assistants

By: Erin Michel
NASW Ohio Chapter Intern

By obtaining an Associate of Applied Science degree in Human Services, individuals may be certified by the state as Social Work Assistants. After obtaining vital technical skills to complete specific tasks, many of them go on to earn four-year Social Work degrees.

Under the Counselor, Social Work, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board, Social Work Assistants are required to work under the “direct supervision of a psychologist, psychiatrist, professional clinical counselor, professional counselor, independent social worker, social worker, or registered nurse who holds a master’s degree in psychiatric nursing” (Ohio CSWMFT Board Rule # 4757.26 (D)).

As a Social Worker…
You are exposed to many potential malpractice lawsuits.

Be smart – protect yourself, your livelihood, and future ability to help others!

Here are some FACTS about your safety net...
NASW Assurance Services Sponsored Professional Liability Insurance:

FACT You can apply for liability coverage amounts of $1,000,000 per claim/$1,000,000 aggregate per year or as much as $2,000,000 per claim/$5,000,000 aggregate per year.

FACT The cost of $6 a month (or even less) for the first year is the best value in the marketplace.

FACT You can tailor flexible coverage options to meet your needs – it’s perfect for independent contractors, private practitioners, exclusively employed individuals, partnerships, corporations, schools, students, and more.

FACT This program insures the largest pool of social workers worldwide, so you’ll have the added security of strength in numbers for rate stability and claims experience.

FACT The NASW Professional Liability rates have not increased in over 15 years.

FACT Online policy renewal with convenient credit card payment option is now available.

You can apply now, with no risk.

Just call the American Professional Agency, Inc. and ask for the Social Work Department at (800) 421-6694

To get more information online and download an application, visit www.naswassurance.org.

The program is created and overseen by Social Workers exclusively for Social Workers.

The NASW Assurance Services Sponsored Professional Liability Coverage is underwritten by American Home Assurance Company and Granite State Insurance Company, both A.M. Best A+ rated companies. © 2009 National Association of Social Workers. All Rights Reserved.
Building a Social Movement: Lessons Learned from the 2009 Children’s Defense Fund YALT® Program

By: Danielle Smith, BSSW, LSW
Services Coordinator

In early October I attended the Children’s Defense Fund Young Advocate Leadership Training (YALT®) Program at the Haley Farm in Clinton, Tennessee. The four day program trained over 120 young advocates from around the country on organizing and how to be an advocate for children's issues. I learned valuable information from the Children’s Defense Fund (CDF) staff on how to be an effective advocate and I want to pass this information on to you to use in your advocacy work.

The fundamental concept of the training was how to build a social movement. The chart at the bottom of the page gives a visual depiction of the road map to building a movement and obtaining your advocacy goals.

The first step of the process is determining our individual self-interest. Self-interest is what issue or issues motivate us to take action. The second step is to determine what the self-interest of our community is. Step 3 is to begin the organizing process. In order to advocate for our self-interest we must know the “lay of the land.” Who are the stakeholders involved in your self-interest? What is currently being done regarding your self-interest? Steps 4 and 5 involve identifying people that have power in the community and identifying your network of relationships. During the training we were constantly reminded that the two most important aspects of organizing are relationships and power. Steps 6 through 10 involve setting your action plan in motion and narrowing down your self-interest into a realistic, achievable goal. Often as social workers we are concerned with many issues and it is hard to determine which single goal is the most important to us. Resolving this dilemma is crucial to making progress toward our overarching goal of achieving social justice. The CDF trainers recommended that we survey the political and social landscape to determine what goal would be the most attainable. For example, the root problem for CDF is the cradle to prison pipeline and their overall goal or solution to the problem is to dismantle the pipeline. However, since this goal is very complex the organization has decided to work on a component of the larger problem: health care reform for children. Choosing the appropriate goal is a critical step in the advocacy process.

The next steps are specific techniques that the Children’s Defense Fund recommends. Step 10 is to create a community map. A community map is a description of the major structures and dynamics in a community. The boundaries of the community can be both physical and imaginary. The map can be used as a tool to navigate, analyze, and create organizing tactics and strategies. A community map can be created through data collection, research, one-to-ones (as will be discussed in the next step), observation, analysis, and revisions. During the mapping process it is important to ask, who are the community’s historians? What are the institutions? Where are the gathering spaces? How do you get ‘kicked out of the community?’ The next step, conducting one-on-ones, builds off of step 10 by finding out more information about the community. One-on-ones are personal interviews that are conducted with stakeholders to develop relationships and ascertain the person’s self-interest. Step 13 is conducting a power analysis. A power analysis is used to highlight relationships and forces that may seem invisible. The analysis is a tool to determine who has power or influence over whom and what the best tactic or tactics to use to persuade someone to act in a certain way. The CDF trainers recommended building a x,y grid where the x axis reflects who is with you and who is against you and the y axis represents the power the actors have. Steps 14 to 18 involve setting an action plan with clear tasks and deliverables and a plan for evaluation.

These eighteen steps provide an excellent, easily understandable roadmap to making progress in our advocacy work. However, the most important training advice I received at the program is to just take the first step! Often we are overwhelmed at the complexity of our goals and it prevents us from ever taking action. But the population you are advocating for whether they are children, persons with mental illness, immigrants, or older adults are counting on us as social workers to advocate on their behalf. We must remember our profession's roots in advocacy for social justice and persevere in our efforts no matter the obstacles that we face.

For more information on the Children’s Defense Fund Young Advocate Leadership Training please visit www.childrensdefense.org.

Citation: CDF YALT® October 2009 Program

January-February, 2010
The International Classification of Diseases–9th Edition–Clinical Modification (ICD–9–CM) is a diagnosis classification system used to identify diseases. In 2003, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA, P.L. 104–191) standardized uniform electronic code sets and identified ICD–9–CM, or its updated counterpart, as the diagnostic code set to use when seeking reimbursement for services performed. The ICD–9–CM is over 30 years old, contains outdated and obsolete terminology, and does not accurately describe diagnoses of the 21st century. Therefore, it will be replaced in 2013 by the International Classification of Diseases–10th Edition–Clinical Modification (ICD–10–CM).

The Federal Register issued on January 16, 2009, released the final rule for the HIPAA Administrative Simplification: Modifications to Medical Data Code Set Standards to Adopt ICD–10–CM, and announced the adoption of ICD–10–CM as the standard to be used when coding diseases. The policy was officially adopted on March 17, 2009, with a compliance date of October 1, 2013. The date of implementation is for all providers, including clinical social workers, psychologists, physicians, hospitals, nursing homes, and ambulatory clinics. According to the final rule, ICD–10–CM may not be used prior to the compliance date.

ICD–10–CM is a diagnosis classification system that was developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for use in all United States health care settings. It is maintained and distributed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). There are approximately 68,000 ICD–10–CM codes identifying health and mental health diseases with three to seven alpha and numeric digits. The ICD–10–CM format is the same as that in the ICD–9–CM. It reports diagnoses in clinical situations and will improve the quality of reporting diseases by

• Updating medical terminology and classification of diseases
• Allowing for expansion in code development
• Providing specific diagnosis and treatment information for
  1) making clinical decisions
  2) measuring care
  3) tracking public health information
  4) conducting research
  5) processing claims

Because adequate preparation time is being provided, HHS has announced there will be no delay in implementation of ICD–10–CM. ICD–9–CM codes will not be accepted for services provided on or after October 1, 2013, and will result in claim denials. Any ICD–9–CM claims filed for services before the implementation date will continue to be processed after October 1, 2013. The Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes will not be affected by the implementation of ICD–10–CM.

Because the conversion from ICD–9–CM to ICD–10–CM will require significant changes in clinical practice and administrative systems, clinical social workers should prepare now for the transition.

Preparation may include
• training to become familiar with the new codes
• mapping ICD–9–CM codes to ICD–10–CM codes
• upgrading or purchasing new practice management and electronic record systems to accommodate the data format of ICD–10–CM
• becoming familiar with your billing services and clearing house implementation plans for ICD–10–CM
• testing ICD–10–CM transactions prior to the compliance date. ICD–10–CM codes are available from the U.S. Government Printing Office as well as private publishers. Some large bookstores may also sell the codes. Clinical social workers who use electronic transactions should check with their vendor to see if they are upgrading or offering a new system for ICD–10–CM.


WHEN A CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER IN SOLO OR GROUP PRACTICE DIES

NASW has received numerous telephone calls from co-workers and family members of NASW members seeking assistance with the estate of a clinical social worker in solo or group practice who has died. In many situations, death and disability occur unexpectedly; therefore, it is important for clinical social workers to prepare their private practice for such circumstances by preparing a professional will. Doing so allows for a smooth transition of services for patients during a difficult period and provides important guidance for the person designated to close the practice and resolve paperwork. Although you may not like to think about death, it is important for clinical social workers to consider provisions for their practice in the event of their death. Preparation of your practice for your death is the best practice to allow for a continuum of services. A recommended list of options includes the following:

• Seek legal counsel and discuss options for the estate of your practice with an attorney skilled and experienced in mental health law.
• Prepare a professional will that includes directions for your solo or group practice including instructions on how to access patient records and how business-related expenses should be paid.
• Select an appropriate colleague or designee familiar with the practice of social work to handle the transfer or closing of patient matters.
• On your office’s intake form and/or contract with patient, include provisions about services in the event of your death.
• Make a list of referrals for patients to receive on-going services in the event you are unable to continue providing services.
• Make provisions for the disposition of the patient records, including identification of a storage place.

[Continued on Page 23]
Michael McGrath

Please join me in thanking Michael McGrath for his diligence and tireless efforts in making the 2009 Ohio Chapter’s Annual Conference a great success.

Michael receives huge kudos for stepping forward and taking on the considerable task of chairing the Chapter’s Annual Conference. Conference is an enormous undertaking requiring countless hours of preparation. Michael facilitated committee meetings along with volunteering countless hours in the Chapter office contacting potential sponsors, formatting forms, putting together name tags, and various tasks that are time consuming and at times frustrating but critical to conference planning. At conference, Michael was quick to ensure that the event ran smoothly, caring for sponsors and attendees, working registration and merchandise tables, introducing speakers, packing and carting numerous boxes back to the Chapter office at the end of an exhausting two days, and doing all of this with a smile. Michael, you are greatly appreciated.

Nicole Tarver

(New York Winner in Film and Television Award)

Writer and Director, Nicole Tarver brought the Annual Conference to a new height by providing a screening of her film Athena, which chronicles a young mother and former sex working attempting to regain custody of her two daughters who have been placed in foster care. Athena was filmed in Toledo, Ohio providing the viewer a “human side” of sex workers. The audience at the screening met the real Athena, who accompanied Nicole for the first time to a screening of the film. We wish to thank Nicole for giving voice in such a critical and proficient approach. We thank Athena for having the courage to have her life exposed to all, endeavoring to make a difference for others.

Nicole Tarver, a graduate of University of Toledo with a Bachelor of Social Work, worked for five years in child protective services in Lucas County and went on to pursue her second passion, film, earning a Masters of Fine Arts in Documentary Film from City University of New York. Nicole effectively utilizes her training in social work and film to explore social issues in a genre that has the capacity to present the stark reality of the often complex human story.

Recipient of NASW Jane B. Aaron Dissertation Fellowship- Shawn King

Shawn D. King, MSW, LSW, received his Ph.D. in December 09 from Ohio State, successfully defending his dissertation on October 5, 2009. Dr. King received his dissertation fellowship from NASW to research Access to Health Care and Social Services by the Gay and Lesbian Community.

“I am very appreciative of having received the Jane B. Aaron dissertation fellowship for my research work from the National Association of Social Workers. My career in gerontology social work has been enhanced through the funding provided and by the recognition and credibility that has been given to the importance of my research work which addresses access barriers to physical and mental services for midlife and older gay men. My research has been able to identify certain biopsychosocial barriers surrounding access to health care, and it has addressed policy and practice intervention which would be important consideration to hopefully enhance service use and lead to better health and well-being for this population.” Congratulations Shawn!
Budgeting 101

By: Marie T. Milo
NASW Ohio Chapter Office Manager/Accountant

Budget is not an ugly word. Most organizations have operating budgets. A budget estimates the amount of income which is expected during a given time period. It also estimates the amount of spending in various categories and helps to control the spending in these categories. Keep in mind that budgets are based on estimates, which are usually based on past performance with adjustments for inflationary increases. These budgets are closely monitored and compared with actual performance in various categories of income and expenses. A budget which shows total income equal to total expenses is commonly referred to as a zero balance budget. A budget where income exceeds total expenses is referred to as a surplus budget. A budget where total income is less than total expenses is referred to as a deficit budget.

One way to control business spending is to issue purchase orders (POs). Purchase orders provide accountability. Let’s say the Accounting Department knows it has up to $4,000 to spend on supplies and there are four department heads who are authorized to purchase supplies. In order to control spending and stay within the budget for this category (supplies), each is given a blanket purchase order complete with a purchase order number, in the amount of $1,000. Invoices coming into Accounting for payment should have the PO# referenced on them. Without the PO#, Accounting doesn’t know that it is an invoice authorized for payment. This obviously will cause a delay in getting the invoice paid. Some of you may have been asked when you placed orders over the phone “Is there a purchase order number which should be referenced?” The company you are placing the order with wants this to make sure they get paid on a timely basis. In summary, purchase orders help track spending and keep companies within their budgets.

One way to control personal spending is to set up a personal budget. I personally love accounting software such as Intuit’s Quicken for tracking my income and expenses and for generating reports (I have also tried Microsoft’s Money but I believe Quicken is a lot more user friendly. Quicken is for personal use, whereas QuickBooks is designed for business use). I’ve been using it since 2003 and don’t know how I ever managed without it. Once I have a report which summarizes my income and expenses (an income statement) I can clearly see where I am spending my money. It really takes less time to enter your data into the system than it does to enter your data onto a check register by hand using a pen or pencil. I highly recommend using some kind of electronic system for creating a budget and tracking your personal spending habits. As social workers you may not make that much money. Hence, an offensive game may not be your best strategy. However, this is all the more reason to play hard defense by controlling your expenses with the tools I have mentioned. Many of you saw the movie Home Alone where little Kevin said “This is my house I have to defend it!” Well, it’s your money you have to defend it. In this tough economy, having better control of your finances is a great way to start off the new year. Happy New Year!

Welcome New NASW Members!

Region 1 (Toledo Area)
Scott Campbell
April Dill
James Jackson
Shalonna Jackson
Melissa Keeler
Meghan Klopfenstein
Anna Pawset
Jenn Sandy
Abigail Stern
Tanya Turner
Alison Walker

Region 2 (Akron Area)
Wendy Arnold
Annalisse Diaz
Barbara Eden
Nancy Miller
Lorraine Porter
Tawnya Remy
Aida Rodriguez
Joseph Rowllett

Region 3 (Cleveland Area)
Angela Arunan
Lauren Au
Karen Jablow
Toi Montgomery
LaToya Vaughn

Region 4 (Youngstown Area)
Val Larkin
Katrina Malone
Jody Pawel
Jennifer Rush
Suzanne Smythe
Paula Struck
Kristin Todd
Maria van Bemmel
Ramesh Reddy Vemula

Region 5 (Columbus Area)
Barbara Cooper
Lynn Dobb
Timothy Durham
Benjamin Fisher
Regina Fruge
Tonya Gragg
Stacy Hall
Beth Jones
Amanda Kerns
Maegen Martin
Jennifer Pope
Stephanie Rapp
Jamie Rogers
Anna Seno
Renee Yeager

Region 6 (Cincinnati Area)
Nicole Ervine
Trudi Stroup

Region 7 (Dayton Area)
Amy Carr
Ashley Corney
Breeann Lee
Michael McGrady
Veronica Miller
Renee’ Wells
Marcia Young

Region 8 (Canton Area)
Janette Anneken
Stacey Bosserman
Megan Busch
Lise-Anne Combs
Kathleen DeKalaita
Charlene Gray
Maria Kretchik

REMEMBER...

March is Social Work Month

The 2010 Social Work Month theme is
Social Workers Inspire Community Action
selfless, and had not given a thought to advocating for themselves, or feel awkward doing so. What I know for sure is our profession is one worth preserving for all of the clients, social work students, social workers and agencies we have in Ohio. Other professions who serve others have successfully advocated for themselves such as teachers and nurses. Both professions give so much to others, yet they realize the importance of preserving and advocating for themselves for better pay, safety and educational opportunities. Legislators in Ohio, such as George Voinovich, are concerned about “brain drain” or individuals being educated in our state leaving for other states as the opportunities and working conditions are better in other states. By submitting a petition with 10,000 signatures, we are sending a strong message that the social work profession is to be valued in our state.

Currently we have about 3,500 signatures, a fourth of our goal. The new deadline is set for March 30, 2010 our Advocacy Day. What I am asking is that everyone who reads this prints out a copy of this petition and carries it with them. They do not have to be a social worker to sign it (… just know or love one!). If all Ohio NASW members can get a few signatures, we can reach our goal of 10,000 signatures by March. Go online to sign and download the petition at www.naswoh.org.

This action you take will be a gift to ourselves, our clients, and other social workers. Together we can elevate and preserve the profession of social work!

**Advocacy Update**
[cont.]

**Position:** Oppose

**SB126 (FEDOR, T)** To prohibit school administrators from knowingly failing to report to law enforcement authorities menacing by stalking or telecommunications harassment that occurs on school grounds, to require a board of education to adopt a policy that prohibits bullying by electronic means, to require a school district’s harassment policy to address acts that occur off school property but materially disrupt the educational environment of the school, to require a school district annually to provide training on the district’s bullying policy for district employees and volunteers, and to require a school district to notify parents or guardians of students if the annual training is not completed.

**Current Status:** 5/6/2009 - Referred to Committee Senate Education

**Position:** Support

**When a Clinical Social Worker in Solo or Group Practice Dies**
[cont.]

- Keep all records and claims up to date.

**Lack of Preparation**
Should there be no preparation for the clinical social worker’s death, the executor of the estate or designee should consider the following options:

- Consult with an attorney about the estate of the clinical social worker who has died.
- Ensure confidentiality of patient records. No one may be privy to the contents.
- Mail a letter to all of the clinical social worker’s patients to inform them of his or her death.
- Inform patients how they may obtain their files if needed.
- Give patients referral options to continue services if needed.
- Place a brief message on the office’s voicemail and e-mail for several months.

- Locate a safe, secure place to store locked files. Check state laws regarding record retention after the death of a provider.

- Notify the professional liability insurance agency of the clinical social worker’s death. (NASW’s agency is the American Professional Agency, 1-800-421-6694.) Should the clinical social worker be insured under the NASW program, the Extended Reporting Period coverage may be available at no cost or for a nominal fee. This coverage is essential because it protects the estate from future malpractice suits that may qualify for coverage.

- Contact appropriate managed care companies and insurance companies to inform them of the clinical social worker’s death.

- When appropriate, submit outstanding claim forms.

- Follow tips in the NASW brochure Retiring or Closing a Private Practice? available online from NASW Press at www.naswpress.org.

A professional will provides others with basic guidance for taking care of the unfinished business of a solo or group practice. Clinical social workers should prepare a professional will, review it on a regular basis, and make immediate updates when changes occur.
Congratulations to Members Who Received Their Licenses!

**LSW**
- Beth Arnold
- Krystal Campbell
- Melissa Carney
- Amanda Chalfant
- Ashley Clark
- Emily Combes
- Tara Day
- Laura Elsea
- Nicole Eppstein
- Paul Fisher
- Sarah Ghee
- Melissa Gilliam
- Gina Gontier
- Emily Harman
- Shauna Harrison
- Audrey Hildebrand
- Jennifer Hughes-Wilson
- Lynn Leader
- Leigh Opfer

**LISW**
- Elizabeth Collardey
- Laura East
- Linda Smith
- Allen Strnad

**LISW-Supervision**
- Sally Hickey

Correction: The NASW staff apologize for incorrectly placing Teresa Fries-Maloy as a new LISW-S. Teresa received her LISW.

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Recovery brings out the best in every family

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Medical Center

Talbot Hall
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Are you looking for a worthwhile licensure examination preparation course?

Dr. Murali Nair has a Doctorate in Social Work from Columbia University & over 30 years of post-graduate social work practice. He is considered nationally as an expert in social work licensure and has previously written questions for exams.

Participants will have the opportunity to review & take a “practice test” with multiple-choice questions (most in case-study formats) in the areas of social work practice, human behavior, social policy, social work research, & social work ethics.

The Ohio Chapter of NASW is offering a full-day workshop that will provide you with the tools and confidence you need to pass the Bachelors and Clinical/Generalist exams.

Just a few of the comments taken from recent evaluations:

“I feel that this course was excellent.”

“Dr. Nair was very knowledgeable and personable.”

Upcoming Courses
Cleveland- 10:00am-4:00pm
January 30th
March 13th
May 8th
August 14th
November 6th

Columbus- 9:00am-3:00pm
March 1st
May 3rd
November 1st

Cincinnati- 9:00am-3:00pm
June 5th

Continental Breakfast will be provided.

Six CEU’s available!

Workshop Cost:
NASW Members $90.00
Non-Members $120.00

To Register: Complete registration form in newsletter. Sign up on-line at www.naswoh.org

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WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM
Ohio Chapter–NASW (Please Print Clearly)

Name: ____________________________ Address: __________________________________

City, State & Zip: __________________ Daytime Phone: ( ) _______- ________

Home Phone: ( ) _______- ________ E-mail: __________________________

NASW Membership # (Must be provided in order to receive membership rates) __________________________

Program Title: ______________________________________________ Program Date: ______/______/____

Social Work License Number: __________________________________________

Please check for licensure review course only: _______LISW Advanced _______LISW Clinical _______LSW

Program Costs & Registration Information: (Please Circle One)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3 hr. CEU Workshop</th>
<th>Licensure Review Course or 6 hr. CEU Workshop</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NASW Member $45.00</td>
<td>$90.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Member $75.00</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
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NASW Members receive a 40% discount on CEU workshops

Payment Method: (Please check appropriate method)

_______ Check (Payable to Ohio NASW) _______ VISA _______ Master Card

Credit Card #: __________________________ Expiration Date: ______/______ Signature: ______________

Special Services Needed: (Please Check Service Requested) _______ Interpreter for Sign Language _______ Other/Please Explain

This form may be duplicated. Please send completed form to NASW-OHIO CHAPTER, 33 N. THIRD ST. SUITE 530, COLUMBUS, OH 43215. Confirmation will be sent by e-mail unless not available, then mail will be used.

Questions? Please Call the Chapter Office at (614) 461-4484, Fax (614) 461-9793, or E-mail info@naswoh.org.
Workshops & Meetings

1/7/10
Region IV (Youngstown Area) Meeting
11am
Belmont Pines Hospital
Youngstown, OH

Region IV (Youngstown Area) Drug Abuse Trends in the Mahoning Valley
12pm-1:30pm (Includes Lunch)
RSVP to Dave Watts at (330) 545-7956
Belmont Pines Hospital
Youngstown, OH

1/14/10
Region IV (Youngstown Area) N.A.M.I. Mahoning Valley
12pm-1:30pm (Includes Lunch)
RSVP to Dave Watts at (330) 545-7956
Belmont Pines Hospital
Youngstown, OH

1/15/10
Region V (Columbus Area) Rain in a Dry Land: Film and Discussion
9am-12:15pm
Karina Harty-Morrison, MA
3.0 CEU’s
$45 Members/$70 Non-Members
American Red Cross
Columbus, OH

1/19/10
Region IV (Youngstown Area) N.A.M.I. Mahoning Valley
12pm-1:30pm (Includes Lunch)
RSVP to Dave Watts at (330) 545-7956
Counseling Center
Lisbon, OH

1/26/10
Region VI (Cincinnati Area) Social Work Ethics
5:30pm-8:45pm
Susan Carlson, LISW-S
3.0 CEU’s
$45 Members/$60 Non-Members
Lighthouse Youth Services
Cincinnati, OH

1/30/10
Licensure Exam Preparation Course
10:00am-4:00pm
Murali Nair, Ph.D
6.0 CEU’s
$90 Members/$120 Non-Members
Cleveland State University
Cleveland, OH

DISCLAIMER: The Ohio Update of the Ohio Chapter NASW is the primary means of communicating with membership about association activities and developments in professional practice and social policy. It carries statements of opinion by a variety of spokespersons and, as space permits, letters to the editor. The views expressed do not necessarily represent positions of NASW.