

CONNECTIONS

January—March 2019



"If you
get tired,
learn to
rest, not
to quit."
— Banksy

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Michelle Kenefick, LCSW, SEP
President, Connecticut Chapter

As the new year approaches, I find myself again, as I noted in the last newsletter, re-visiting my goals and hopes from 2018 and considering what lies ahead as we enter 2019. It has been a busy year with a lot of successes for our Chapter, for those we serve and for all of us dedicated to our profession.

As I sat to write this column, I was struck by the cover of the latest issue of NASW magazine: Stepping Up. Much of this issue was dedicated to highlighting Social Workers as leaders and I began thinking about what it is that motivates us to, well... step up? It made me reflect on what made me accept the nomination to sit on the Board of Directors for the CT Chapter and to accept the privilege and the challenges of leading the Board as President. For me, the answer is simple – it was a way that I could give back to the Chapter for the support and advocacy efforts that I have benefitted from. Often, we hear from non-members: that membership is expensive, and that they don't see any benefit. That is the magic from my perspective. The fact that you don't see it is the entire point. What would it be like if we didn't have such a strong Chapter Executive Director, dedicated committee leaders and members, a strong Board devoted to ensuring that we are diligently and carefully paying attention to the landscape locally, state-wide, regionally and nationally? What would happen if our legislative agenda didn't pass? What if those cuts had happened to Medicare Savings Plan and those 13,000 working parents and families had lost their Medicaid coverage? What if there was no advocacy for Social Workers who face job loss due to a lack of understanding of their critical value in the broader context of their employment?

This year brought a lot of positive things politically at a time when many view politics as a dangerous landscape to navigate. The challenges of polarization have been painful as we bear witness to the consequences of division. Despite this, we had a successful election in that most of our endorsed candidates won in their districts and did you know that there are now 7 Social Workers serving in the legislature, the most in our history? That happened because people chose to Step Up and members used their voices to reach out to voters and at the polls. Now that's a way to Step Up! The Chapter has been working hard to influence the incoming administration including offering new opportunities to strengthen Social Work leadership, employment and in securing Title Protection.

We also had our largest turn out for the Annual Dinner which was a successful event in attendance, fundraising and in celebration. This event, held annually at the Inn at Middletown is one not to be missed and if you did, be sure to register early next year as we sold out this year!

2018 also brought 3 new committees: Membership, Diversity and Addictions. We are always looking for new members for all our committees so if it's been awhile since you looked, check them out and see if any are of interest. Committee involvement offers a rich opportunity to connect with other Social Workers and creates a closer connection with the Chapter.

Moving toward our future and focus in 2019 – Title Protection and working to secure preferential hiring are at the top of our list. We have a long list of legislative agenda items we are advocating and lobbying for.

President, continued

Some of those include identifying progressive streams of revenue (rather than focusing on cutting critical services), mental health parity, gun violence prevention and school safety, use of Medicaid funds to improve access to services such as case management, transportation and improved medical and mental health service provision and client empowerment, to provide mental health, trauma and mental health first aid training of teachers, administrators and other school staff to create and promote emotionally safe classrooms, inclusive language for LGBTQIA community, broadening rights of adoptees to have access to original birth certificates and lower prescription drug

prices. There are so, so many more and as we move into a long legislative session, your advocacy will really matter. Together, we can move our agenda forward.

The theme for me this year in 2019 is to celebrate all the ways in which we all Step Up every day – the ways we Show Up every day. Thank you so much for all you do, for your support of the Chapter and in achieving our goals for the year ahead!

May you enjoy good health and prosperity. May your spirit sparkle and shine bright all year long!

NASW/CT Tells Lamont Transition Team – Hire Professional Social Workers

In January 2014 the State of Connecticut began giving preference in hiring to BSW and MSW applicants for the positions of Social Worker Trainee and Social Worker. By that time Commissioners Katz at DCF and Bremby at DSS had already instituted new hiring practices that sought professional social workers. Now it is 2019, Commissioner Katz is leaving and Commissioner Bremby, if not reappointed by Governor Lamont, will be gone too. The question for us is will new commissioners go beyond the preference in hiring by continuing the hiring decisions made by the previous DCF and DSS commissioners?

NASW/CT has taken a pro-active position to keep the state agencies hiring professional social workers. The Chapter has reached out to Representative Toni Walker, MSW, co-chair of the Lamont Transition team, asking that the new administration maintain hiring practices that now date back to 2012 for DCF and 2013 at DSS. The Chapter also has reached out to Luis Perez, LCSW, who co-chairs the Human Services Committee of the Lamont Transition Team, again asking that state hires for social worker be filled by BSWs and MSWs.

On December 9, 2018 the Chapter received an email from Mr. Perez stating that the Human Services Committee **“will incorporate the recommendation under our Workforce Workgroup recommendations”**. This is a

very positive first step toward maintaining our significant gains in professionalization of the state’s social work job classification series (the Clinical Social Worker series requires the MSW).

NASW/CT executive director, Stephen Wanczyk-Karp attended the public presentation by the Lamont transition team for Human Services. At that presentation the workforce recommendations spoke of professionalization of staffing, without any specific reference to the social work job classification. Stephen commented during the question & answer period as to the importance of employing professional social workers. It is clear to us that the recommendations will not be as specific as addressing one group of state employees. To further pursue our position NASW/CT will be meeting with Lt. Governor Bysewicz in January to reiterate our position on the hiring of BSWs and MSWs. We believe that the LT. Governor is our best vehicle for communicating to the Lamont administration.

If you have contacts with the Lamont Administration please voice your opinion on the importance of professional social workers for the positions of social worker trainee and social worker. Watch for updates in upcoming newsletters.



Steve Wanczyk-Karp, LMSW
Executive Director
Connecticut Chapter

Transitions Offer Opportunities

The start of a new state administration offers social workers an opportunity to influence the direction of policy and practice in Connecticut. New administrations will set their own path and often the best time to have input is early in a new administration when new ideas are being sought. The Lamont Administration is no different than previous Governor-elects in this matter. A transition team was created; one of the co-chairs was Representative Toni Walker, MSW, and the Human Services Committee was co-chaired by Luis Perez, LCSW. Maddie Granato, MSW was appointed to the Women's Issues Committee. There may have been other social workers scattered amongst the various topic committees that by name I do not know. This gave social work an initial opportunity to have our voices heard.

The Lamont Transition Team had two weeks to develop initial recommendations on what is to be undertaken in the first 100 days, as well as in the longer term. The initial meeting of all the transition team appointees was an open to the public affair. Following what had to be a hectic two-week period, the various committees held public meetings to roll out their draft recommendations and get feedback from the public. These meetings were held in sites throughout the state, in relevant locations. For example, the health care committee was at Griffin Hospital in Derby; the environment committee was at Hammonasset State Park in Madison and the Human Services Committee presented at the Veteran's Home & Hospital in Rocky Hill. I attended the latter to see what may be said about social work services and professionalization of the state social work workforce.

To back up a little in time, NASW/CT submitted to the Transition Team recommendations for continuing the policy of Commissioner Katz in DCF and Commissioner

Bremby in DSS of primarily hiring BSWs and MSWs for the positions of Social Worker Trainee and Social Worker. We also called upon the Lamont administration to maintain and enforce the hard-achieved **preference in hiring of BSWs and MSWs** that NASW/CT won in early 2014. This January 29th is the **5th anniversary** of our campaign's success in getting preference in the social worker job classification. Furthermore, Angelo McClain, PhD., NASW's CEO sent a letter to the Transition Team recommending that professional social workers be employed by the State and calling for it to be a prerequisite for appointment of the DCF Commissioner to support said hiring.

Now back to the Human Services Committee presentation of their draft recommendations. The presentations were divided into sub-committees, one being workforce. In this presentation, Deborah Schwartz, VP, SEIU, the committee co-chair, offered a recommendation for "qualified professional staff". This is a good start, but not satisfactory to me, so when the Q & A time came up I spoke about the existing preference in hiring, how it makes a difference when clients have qualified, professional social work staff, that the delivery of service is only as good as the deliverer, and that we seek specifically for the Lamont Administration to support the hiring of professional social workers. Since the meeting was a public meeting, with notes being taken, I knew that even though they expected as much from me, I had to go on record. After the meeting I spoke to a committee member who told me they could only include one line on staffing so could not be specific. That was a tad disappointing, though I must say to the credit of the Lamont team, this has been the most public and transparent transition process I have ever seen.

Transitions, continued

Again, going back a little in time, I was at a “thank you” gathering put on by State Representative Matt Lesser, incoming state senator in the 9th district. Matt was endorsed by NASW/CT and will be my new state senator. At the gathering was Lt. Governor-Elect Susan Bysiewicz who I know from her prior elected positions. I asked Susan for a meeting to discuss social work issues. She said to call any time after January 9th to make an appointment. You can guess what I am going to talk about! Hiring professional social workers and social work title protection. I figure that Lt. Governor-Elect Bysiewicz is the best person to broach these subjects with, and for us to ask her to be our ambassador to Governor-Elect Lamont and the incoming Commissioners.

So, you see opportunity is not a singular moment but rather a multi-door moment in time. We are knocking at every door we can access, with a simple, straight-forward, consistent message. This is your chance Ned Lamont to fully professionalize the state’s social work workforce. With 7 BSW programs, 5 MSW programs (and that is just in Connecticut) there is a strong pool of professional social workers to be recruited.

Now here is where you, our member, come in. If you know anyone in the Lamont Administration shoot them an email or, even better, have a phone or in-person conversation. Tell them why your degree has made a difference in how you understand issues and practice. Let them know that professionalization of the social work workforce benefits clients, improves agency functioning, and best of all – **does not cost one penny more** than is being paid now to state employees with the social work degree and without.

A final note on transitions. Here in the Chapter we have had our own transitions. Elizabeth Roberts has joined us as the new Membership Services Coordinator. And Amber Reyna, MSW intern, who has been with the Chapter for 2 years has graduated. Congratulations to both! And, James Hexter, MSW Candidate studying at Quinnipiac University, will be interning with NASW/CT in the Spring semester, primarily assisting us with our legislative program. Welcome James!

Welcome to Our New Members!

Angela Aguilar
Dana Anderson
Krissa Anderson
Caitlin Bardsley
Catherine Bernardo
Barrie Birge
Jessica Boucher
Teneika Brown
Annastacia Burns
Michael Cecere-Palazzo
Larry Cerrato
Erna Clarke
Kayla Ewing
Pamela Feroletto

Krystal Fox
Danielle Gabor
Susan Gaffney
Gayle Gagliardo
Cortney Graham
Jeffrey Granata
Sarah Henckel
Jennifer Hrbek
Amanda Jelden
Laura Johnston
Heather LaSelle
Christina Lindstrom
Carolyn Mangiafico
Nicole Mason

Delia McCarthy
Melinda Mendoza
Thais Ortolaza
Courtney Passman
Daryl Payne
Melissa Rosales
Shalita Sampson
Ahmed Shaher
Sarah Skawinski
Jennifer Staehly
Lindsay Veilleux
Alyssa Zargos

Climate Change: A Call to Social Workers

by Merritt Juliano JD LMSW, Climate Psychology Alliance North America

Extreme climate change has the potential to cause some of the greatest social problems ever faced by humanity, yet serious conversations around the issue are all too rare in the field of social work. In California, thousands of homes have been destroyed by raging wildfires, leaving a trail of contaminated air for children to breathe, as well as an emotional and financial strain on the impacted communities. Many victims of Hurricane Sandy in 2012 remain displaced six years following the initial devastation, while others returned to their homes only to live with conditions such as toxic mold. Questions arise as to the biological, psychological and social impacts of the ecological crisis on individuals, families, communities, organizations, as well as federal state, and local governments.

Just last year, the American Psychological Association reported findings linking extreme weather to a variety of mental health conditions, such as PTSD, anxiety and depression. Nearly a decade ago in response to growing concerns about the psychosocial impact of the ecological crisis, the UK-based *Climate Psychology Alliance* was formed with the aim of mobilizing a collective response consisting of mitigation and adaptation. New chapters have followed, including the New York-based *Climate Psychology Alliance North America* (CPA-NA).

Communities in the US and abroad are already experiencing increased flooding, extreme temperature fluctuations, and natural disasters with greater intensity; the unfortunate reality is that lower socioeconomic populations are particularly vulnerable to environmental shifts. Furthermore, the most recent IPCC report predicts catastrophic outcomes on a global scale if humanity fails to drastically reduce carbon emissions within the next 12 years. For example, non-linear weather patterns are projected to have disastrous effects on global food supplies. Absent unprecedented lifestyle reconstruction, many have argued that the ecosystem may become unstable to the point that we must question whether the planet can and will support life on its current scale.

Efforts to sustain life on our sacred planet continue in communities around the world. The UN's recent COP 24 conference concluded with a framework for global decarbonization. Monumental movements are being proposed or are already underway, including Bill

McKibbin's 350.org campaign, Paul Hawken's comprehensive *Drawdown* plan, the so-called Green New Deal, backed by Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, the *Our Children's Trust* lawsuit against the federal government, and a growing US chapter of the Extinction Rebellion.

I write as a call to action among social workers to join these efforts, as well as to sustain individual, social and ecological wellbeing on Earth by fostering a cultural transformation. As we look to science, government and to our own behaviors to help heal our home, an equal amount of time and energy must be put into treating its occupants. Beyond immediate disaster response, social workers can emphasize interconnectedness while cultivating reflectiveness in order for our communities to understand how our behaviors affect the ecosystem. At the grassroots level social workers can get involved in community organizing and advocacy to support federal, state and local policies that will ensure the continued viability of our environment, particularly given that children and people in vulnerable communities face the greatest risk. Clinical social workers providing direct care should consider increasing climate-related mental health concerns, whether from climate disaster-related trauma exposure, or from increasing generalized anxiety and despair. Social workers are uniquely poised to participate in this cultural transformation given our deep understanding of human behavior in the social environment, and our ability to lead with compassion and empathy. Please contact me at merrittjuliano@gmail.com for more information or to get involved. I am an active member of Climate Psychology Alliance North America looking to bridge social work and climate psychology.

¹The CPA-NA looks to merge the insights of depth psychologies with the realities of climate change:

Depth psychology's *understanding* of the roles of emotions, defenses, and unconscious motivations can lead to more effective ways to comprehend and address this environmental and civilizational tipping point. The organizers of CPA-NA hope to encourage insight and the solidarity necessary for promoting social change, while offering resources that invite collaboration and inspiration for mitigating and adapting to an uncertain future. <https://climatepsychologyalliance.org>

Representation



NASW/CT – THE STATE’S LARGEST ORGANIZATION REPRESENTING PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORKERS

The National Association of Social Workers was established in 1955, combining 10 national organizations related to social work practice. NASW has a national office and 55 chapters and in Connecticut the NASW chapter represents over 2,500 members.

NASW/CT has multiple purposes aimed at serving professional social workers, social work students and the general public. The chapter’s key program areas are as follows:

- ⇒ **Continuing Education:** NASW/CT holds an annual statewide conference, the largest, premier social work conference in the state. Additionally, various workshops are offered throughout the year, online courses are available, and through a provider approval program the chapter approves for continuing education credits over 700 programs per year.
- ⇒ **Policy and Advocacy:** NASW/CT actively supports legislative initiatives that support the funding and programs necessary for the betterment of Connecticut’s residents. An emphasis is placed on legislation that positively impacts the lives of vulnerable and at-risk populations. Advocacy initiatives are also undertaken through work with state administrative departments.
- ⇒ **Advancement of the Profession:** As the largest representative organization for social work practice, NASW/CT works to advance and protect the ability of social workers to practice within Connecticut. This includes successful passage of licensing laws, confidentiality statute, and attaining preference in hiring of applicants with social work degrees for the state job classification series of Social Worker. Employers often contact NASW/CT as to practice standards and state regulations that govern social work practice in Connecticut.
- ⇒ **Protection of the Public:** NASW/CT upholds professional practice standards to assure that individuals and families who receive services from a social worker are receiving care in accordance with the NASW Code of Ethics and NASW Standards of Practice.
- ⇒ **Member Services:** NASW/CT staff provide members with assistance on a wide range of inquiries, publishes a quarterly newsletter, monthly email update, a job bank and frequent communications to keep members up to date on practice issues.

Practice Alert

2019 MACRA REPORTING FOR CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKERS IN PRIVATE PRACTICE

Mirean Coleman, LICSW, CT, Clinical Manager, December 2019

The Medicare Access and chip Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA) ended the Sustainable Growth Rate formula for clinical social work reimbursement and established a quality payment incentive program known as the Quality Payment Program (QPP). This program provides clinical social workers who are Medicare providers with two ways to participate: (1) the Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) and (2) The Advanced Alternative Payment Models (APMs).

For social work purposes, clinical social workers who work in health care organizations are most likely to participate in APMs and report measures as an "incident to" provider. Clinical social workers who are Medicare providers in private practice would participate in MIPS.

MIPS has several areas of participation:

- Low volume threshold is an exclusion to those who submit less than \$90,000 in Part B allowed charges of covered psychotherapy services or have less than 200 Medicare Part B enrolled patients.
- Virtual groups require a small practice of 15 or fewer clinicians who join other groups identified by CMS to report measures together.
- Individual measures require providers to report measures by claims as they did when reporting the Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS) or they may hire a registry to report the measures for them.

In June 2019, CMS-1693-P, the proposed rule for the 2019 physician fee schedule, listed clinical social workers as eligible providers for the 2019 quality payment program. NASW responded to the proposed rule with the following comments that shared why it would be problematic for clinical social workers to report quality measures successfully in 2019.

- NASW commented on clinical social workers' ability to meet performance expectations in the quality performance category. While there are more than six measures available in the mental and behavioral health measure set, there are four claims measures appropriate for use by clinical social workers as determined by eligible Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes and scope of practice. Most clinical social workers utilize claims-based reporting. NASW expressed concerns that clinical social workers would not have six quality measures available. The association requested the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to consider excluding clinical social workers inclusion in MIPS for the 2019 Performance Year just as it had proposed exclusion for several other non-physician practitioners who also had less than six measures to report.
- In addition, there were only two outcome measures in the mental and behavioral health measure set for clinical

social workers and they required the utilization of the PHQ-9 measure which is only reportable by an electronic health record. When clinical social workers do not utilize and electronic health record, they encounter further limitations to reporting appropriate measures.

- NASW expressed concern that lack of appropriate quality measures would result in a negative payment adjustment. The 2019 negative payment adjustment is significant at a minus seven percent. Clinical social workers conveyed to NASW substantial financial hardship when the negative two percent payment adjustments were applied under PQRS. A negative seven percent adjustment appears punitive to clinical social workers who do not have enough measures to meet the measure reporting requirements.

Other comments by NASW to the proposed rule on quality payment are available at:

<https://www.socialworkers.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=7KlwJCZF-6c%3d&portalid=0>

As a result of NASW's comments to the proposed rule, CMS excluded clinical social workers as eligible providers to the 2019 quality payment program. For clinical social workers, the exclusion means they

- 1) Are not required to report measures the Medicare quality payment program reporting year of 2019
- 2) May voluntarily report measures, however, they will not receive a positive nor negative payment adjustment when doing so
- 3) Will not have the opportunity to increase their Medicare reimbursement in 2019.

Currently, it is unknown whether clinical social workers will become eligible reporting providers in 2020 for the quality payment program. Other than a lack of opportunity to increase Medicare reimbursement in 2019, the negative implications of the MIPS exclusion are unknown for the future.

For several years, NASW has been advocating for Medicare quality payment measures for clinical social workers. NASW encourages its members to become familiar with using Medicare measures in order to become prepared for reporting status in 2020 should they become eligible providers. For now, the 2019 MIPS exclusion is a victory for clinical social workers who have reported relief and contentment for the exclusion.

Additional information on the Medicare quality payment program is available at:

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Payment-Program/Resource-Library/Year-3-Final-Rule-executive-summary.pdf>

Members in the News



Claire Cote, LMSW was honored by the Canton Chamber of Commerce at the Chamber's annual Stars of the Town event. Claire was awarded the 2018 Service to the Community Award. Employed by the Town of Canton since 2009, Claire is the Canton Senior and Social Services Director.



Photograph courtesy of Connecticut Headshots
<https://connecticutheadshots.com>



Cristin McCarthy Vahey, MSW was re-elected to the State's House of Representatives, representing District 133.

Jillian Gilchrest, MSW was elected to the House of Representatives for the first time, representing District 18.



If you know of any members who have achievements we should know about, please email info.naswct@socialworkers.org.

Outstanding Awards Dinner for Outstanding Awardees

On November 29th, 2018, the NASW/CT Chapter honored seven people who have contributed to the field of social work in different, but decidedly outstanding, ways. A record-breaking crowd of 140 gathered at the Inn at Middletown for conversation, dinner, and the presentation of the awards. As always, it was an inspiring and memorable evening.



The Chapter awarded **Senator Richard Blumenthal** the **Legislator of the Year Award**. Presented by Ashley Blanchard, MSW, Chair of the PACE Committee, the award was accepted by Ellen Graham, MSW, Community Liaison for Senator Blumenthal's office on behalf of Senator Blumenthal who was still in Washington on Thursday night. Senator Blumenthal's long public service career has consistently included protecting children, improving education, preserving the environment, and insuring the right for all to health care. He is committed to combating discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identification, ending racial profiling, addressing the injustices faced by veterans, advocating for legislation on domestic violence and campus sexual assault, and finding common sense solutions to reducing gun violence in this country. For his leadership in these arenas NASW/CT was pleased to recognize Senator Blumenthal.

Betty Gallo, founder of Gallo & Robinson, LLC, lobbyist for 41 years, and a person well known for her fierce and successful advocating for social justice issues was awarded the **Public Citizen of the Year** award. Having recently retired and on holiday, Betty was not present to accept the award from Steve Wanczyk-Karp, LMSW but she conveyed her deep sense of honor at being recognized by the chapter. From her beginnings as a lobbyist, Betty and her firm promoted laws to expand health coverage for women and helped to pass the state's first-ever gay rights bill in 1991 prohibiting same-sex discrimination in employment and housing. She worked to pass a law creating a needle exchange program in the early days of the AIDS crisis and during the bank crisis she worked on legislation for sub-prime mortgage reform. Gallo & Robinson was first hired in 1995 to help create the Clinical Social Work license and has been a friend to NASW/CT ever since, along with many other agencies who have turned to Betty Gallo and her team for strong grassroots advocacy.

The recipient of the **BSW Student of the Year Award** for 2018 was **Annastacia Burns**, a dedicated, hard-working young student at the University of Saint Joseph introduced by Madeline Perez DeJesus, PhD, MSW. Her communication skills, her energy, her level of commitment, and her leadership activities led to her recognition. Currently an intern at the State

Awardees, continued

of Connecticut's Judicial Branch in the Adult Probation Department she has discovered her vision for her life's work. Within the next five years Anastacia aspires to complete a Masters in Social Work and a Juris Doctorate. She hopes to braid social work with the law to advocate for children, specifically those who are survivors of trauma. Her personal and professional experiences have led her to this commitment and her colleagues and mentors at USJ stand behind her with united enthusiasm for her potential as a social work practitioner.



Anastacia Burns, BSW Student of the Year, and Nelly Rojas Schwan, Lifetime Achievement Awardee, are flanked by colleagues from the University of Saint Joseph

Kathleen Callahan was the recipient of the **MSW Student of the Year**. After working as a computer engineer for over 20 years, Kathleen made the brave decision to change careers and dedicate her work to the health and well being of individuals living with behavioral health disorders. Introduced by her colleague at the Connecticut Women's Consortium, Shannon Perkins, LMSW, Kathleen was described as ably wearing many hats as an employee of the Connecticut Women's Consortium, friend, advocate, community leader, trainer, intern, and as a graduate student in the MSW program at Southern Connecticut State University in the Co-occurring Disorders Program. Kathleen was named the 2013-2014 Student Leader of the Year by Gateway Community College upon her graduation from their Drug and Alcohol Recovery Counselor Program and went on to distinguish herself as a student at SCSU. Her field placement with the Connecticut Women's Consortium became not only an internship but a part time job. As Trauma and Gender

Awardees, continued

Coordinator Kathleen has connected the CWC to the community in a variety of new and innovative ways. She works tirelessly, inspiring change for many. A clear thinker and an accomplished problem solver, Kathleen uses her energy and compassion and initiative to make things “happen”!



Kathleen Callahan, front right, with her wife Karen and her cheerful, cheering co-workers and friends from the Connecticut Women's Consortium

Catherine Medina, PhD, M.Phil, LCSW, ACSW received the **Educator of the Year** award and was introduced by Edna Comer, PhD, MSW. A professor who has demonstrated outstanding and unswerving commitment to the profession of social work, her students, and underserved populations over the years, Dr. Medina has been exceptionally influential in the development and training of hundreds of social workers in Connecticut. Chair of the Policy Practice sequence, former Director/now integral part of the Puerto Rican and Latin@ Studies Project, and Coordinator and co-instructor of the Puerto Rico Travel Study, she is a skilled instructor of many courses that engage, challenge, and inspire students. Her years of social work practice prior to her academic career inform her role as a teacher and as a field instructor and bring a special expertise to her ability to advance social work knowledge and skills. Her longtime commitment to work with

Awardees, continued

diverse and disadvantaged populations and the influence of the social determinants of health on well-being are themes that thread through her teaching, scholarship, and service activities. A superb role model and teacher, Dr. Medina brings dedication, intellect, focus, and commitment to her many roles and her students stay in touch with her long after their graduations. NASW/CT was honored to present Dr. Medina with the Educator of the Year award.



*Dr. Catherine Medina with one of her greatest fans, Elizabeth Roberts, MSW,
Membership Services Coordinator for NASW/CT*

Deborah Ingalls, LCSW was awarded this year's **Social Worker of the Year** award and she was introduced by Marie Carlin, LCSW. A social worker in the Public Defender's Office at the Hartford Superior Court for close to twenty years, her colleagues at the court—supervisors, social workers, staff, and attorneys alike—find her to be a compassionate voice for the most vulnerable and socially marginalized clients in the prison system, advocating for their well-being and appropriate treatment. Deb is recognized for being particularly skillful in promoting communication between the inmates and court personnel and between the court staff and jail staff. She is able to skillfully balance her responsibility to her clients and to the broader society through her careful investigation of her cases to insure inmates are fairly represented, treated respectfully, and that no stone goes unturned in assessing the events and cumulative psycho-social issues which brought the client to the criminal court in the first place. Her thoroughness and care, patience and persistence are exceptional. A passionate advocate for her clients and a critical part of the legal team at the Hartford Superior Court, it was an honor to recognize Deb's contributions and dedication to the profession of social work.

Awardees, continued



*Deborah Ingalls accepting the
Social Worker of the Year Award*



*Annastacia Burns with Nelly Rojas-Schwann,
Lifetime Achievement Award recipient*

Part of the social work profession and the social work community in Connecticut since she entered the social work program at the University of Connecticut in 1978, it was particularly exciting and significant to present the **Lifetime Achievement Award** to **Nelly Rojas Schwan, PhD, LCSW, ACSW**. Introduced by her longtime friend and colleague, Julio Morales, PhD, MSW, Nelly's heritage guided her to a life long commitment to the provision of culturally relevant services, in particular, attention to the growing Latino Population in Connecticut. Nelly worked for many years at The Village for Families and Children starting as a caseworker, then a group worker, supervisor, and eventually as an administrator. Under her leadership the agency recruited staff of color and focused on developing clinical services responsive to the cultural and social needs of the population. Her tenure at The Village also allowed her to serve as a supervisor to graduate students and, always cognizant of the social work values and the foundations of the profession, she influenced scores of social work students with her global perspective and her professional knowledge. Nelly has given generously to her community, serving on many boards and committees and her contributions to NASW, both at the state chapter and at the National office, have been extensive. After her productive career as a practitioner and administrator, Nelly Rojas Schwan joined academia in 2009 at the University of Saint Joseph where, in 2017, she became Director of the BSW Program as well as being Associate Professor in the Department of Social Work and Equitable Community Practice. Nelly Schwan's life work has been to be a social worker, live as a social worker, teach as a social worker, and be a role model as a social worker. Infused with her commitment to diversity and culturally relevant services, her work and influence stand out as a model to us all.

An amazing evening! An amazing group of individuals who have made a difference!

Pat Hartman

Coordinator of Professional Development

Licensed Social Worker Chosen as DCF Commissioner

Governor-Elect Ned Lamont has chosen Vanessa Dorantes, LMSW, to be the new Commissioner of DCF. At a press conference today Lamont introduced Vanessa Dorantes, who proudly spoke about being a social worker and how she will bring a social work perspective to DCF's work with children and families. Lamont said that having conducted a national search, Vanessa Dorantes name came up numerous times. NASW was one of the organizations that recommended Ms. Dorantes to the Lamont Transition Team.

Vanessa Dorantes earned her MSW degree from UCONN SSW, with a major in Casework and minor in Community Organization. Her professional career began in gerontological social work in 1990. In 1992 she began her career at DCF as a caseworker, was promoted to supervisor, then CPS Program Manager and from there to Area Office Director. Her exceptional work led to being appointed to Regional Administrator overseeing a 44-town region, with approximately 500 employees and an annual budget of over 8 million dollars.

Ms. Dorantes is a certified field instructor for both BSW and MSW students from various CT, NY and MA schools. She has taught a range of social work courses at CCSU, and is a member of the Social Work Advisory Boards for both Central CT State University and Western CT State University.

NASW/CT congratulates both Vanessa Dorantes on her appointment and the Lamont administration for selecting a social worker.



Newly appointed Vanessa Dorantes pictured with Joanne Leon, CCSU Social Work Dept. Chair and NASW/CT Board Member

Meet Our Newest Intern



We are pleased to announce that James Hexter, an MSW student at Quinnipiac University, will be completing his first-year internship here at NASW/CT. James will be focusing his efforts on out title protection bill and other legislative issues that the Chapter will be working on in the 2019 Legislative Session.

James has experience in policy arena, being the Chair of the Connecticut Council on Developmental Disabilities, a state agency that promotes the full inclusion of people with disabilities in community life through advocacy, capacity building, and systems change. He is also a Board member of PATH Parent-to-Parent/Family Voices of Connecticut. He has a Bachelors degree from Middlebury College in Environmental Studies, where he graduated cum laude.

Prior to entering graduate school, James first worked at Autism Services & Resources Connecticut, where he was a Program Assistant/Website Administrator.

Most recently he was employed by Innovative Financial Services, LLC, as Administrative/Marketing Assistant.

James is the first student from Quinnipiac University to intern at NASW/CT. He will be with the Chapter until late April or early May. Please join with the staff in welcoming James.



NYU

SILVER SCHOOL
OF SOCIAL WORK

DSW PROGRAM

in Clinical Social Work

Enhance Your Clinical Leadership Skills in:
ACADEMIA | SUPERVISION | PRACTICE THEORIES

The DSW program at NYU Silver is focused on preparing licensed social workers for leadership roles in academic and agency settings.

Our three-year, part-time program provides opportunities for independent study with **renowned faculty** specializing in clinical intervention research and mental health services. Students participate in **publication development** workshops with faculty who serve as editors and reviewers of professional journals. Students are provided with **internships** in either teaching or clinical supervision.

"NYU Silver's DSW program is perfectly aligned with my professional goals. When I earn my degree, I will be well positioned to advance practice research and to continue to educate the next generation of social work leaders."

Amy C. Lemen, MA, LCSW
Class of 2019 DSW Student



NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR FALL 2019.

For more information and to apply, visit:
socialwork.nyu.edu/dswfall19

New York University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution.

NASW Response to the ACA Court Ruling

The Court ruling in Texas on the Affordable Care Act, if upheld, would be disastrous for those with insurance through the insurance exchanges and for all insured persons. Read NASW's initial comments on the Court ruling and what you can do at this time.

PRACTICE ALERT

Court Decision on the Affordable Care Act: Texas v. Azar

Carrie Dorn, LMSW, MPA
Senior Practice Associate

December 2018

In early 2018, a coalition of 20 states with Republican leadership brought a case seeking to dismantle the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) to a Texas federal court. The Department of Justice, under the direction of the Trump Administration, chose not to defend the ACA. A group of 16 attorneys general from states with Democratic leadership represented the ACA and argued in its defense.

The Affordable Care Act originally passed with the individual mandate, requiring individuals to have health insurance coverage or face a penalty. The tax penalty was ended by Congress in December 2017. In 2018, the attorneys general from Republican states argued that without the tax penalty or individual mandate, all of the ACA's provisions are invalid. This case rested on the principle of "severability," meaning that if one part of a law is invalid, the entire law is invalid.

With oral arguments ending in September, consumers and advocates awaited a decision. On Friday, Dec 14th, Judge Reed O'Connor issued a partial summary judgment that the ACA is unconstitutional, because it is not severable. Many legal scholars question the rationale of the decision, expect an appeal to be filed, and do not think that other courts will uphold the decision.

Thus far, there is no indication that the decision has any immediate effect. The decision will not cause loss of health insurance coverage or prevent individuals from obtaining health insurance coverage for 2019. Individuals are still able to maintain coverage in the health insurance marketplace, secure insurance through Medicaid expansion and continue to have ACA consumer protections in the private insurance market. On Wednesday, December 19th the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services released the following statement:

The recent U.S. District Court decision regarding the Affordable Care Act is not an injunction that halts the enforcement of the law and not a final judgment. Therefore, HHS will continue administering and enforcing all aspects of the ACA as it had before the court issued its decision. This decision does not require that HHS make any changes to any of the ACA programs it administers or its enforcement of any portion of the ACA at this time. As always, the Trump Administration stands ready to work with Congress on policy solutions that will deliver more insurance choices, better healthcare, and lower costs while continuing to protect individuals with pre-existing conditions.

Steps are being taken to challenge the ruling and once a final order is issued by Judge O'Connor, an appeal may be pursued by representatives of states with Democratic leadership. It's important to note that the ACA has been challenged many times and in 2012 the Supreme Court upheld the law, including the individual mandate. Congress may also take action to stabilize the health insurance market through legislation.

Judge O'Connor's decision may be reversed through the appeals process. Nevertheless, the long-term implications of the decision are dire. If subsequent court decisions agree that the ACA is unconstitutional, all of the provisions in the law will end and millions of people will be at risk of losing their health insurance coverage. The consequences apply to both public and private health insurance, and include ending: 1) protection against discrimination for pre-existing conditions, 2) Medicaid expansion, 3) the ability of youth to stay on family insurance until age 26, and 4) subsidies that have made health insurance more affordable.

Social workers can help ease uncertainty for consumers as the legal process continues and encourage clients to secure health insurance coverage for 2019. Social workers and their clients can also become engaged by following Congressional activities on health insurance and communicating with their elected representatives about the importance of affordable, accessible health care. NASW will continue to advocate for the Affordable Care Act and provide updates to its members.

Board of Directors Adopts 2019 Legislative Agenda

The Chapter's Legislative Committee (ELAN) presented the Board of Directors with a broad and comprehensive legislative agenda for 2019. Topping that agenda is Social Work Title Protection that will allow only individuals with a social work degree to call themselves a social worker or hold the job title of social worker. The agenda also calls for proactive activities on key issues that include: Paid Family and Medical Leave; \$15.00 Minimum Wage; fully funding School Based Health Clinics; Mental Health Parity; Progressive Revenue Streams; Protecting and Expanding Medicaid; Protecting Safety Net Programs and Criminal Justice Reforms. A full list of potential areas of action are at the end of this article.

All Encompassing Proposed Legislative Goals and Priorities for NASW/CT this Legislative Session.

A. Proposing Legislation within the Connecticut General Assembly (CGA):

The main focus of ELAN CT, in conjunction with NASW/CT, will be to implement Title Protection for BSW, MSW, and PhD's in Social work or DSW's in the 2019 legislative session. NASW/CT strongly recommends Connecticut protect our vulnerable consumers from receiving sub-standard services by enacting a title protection law to ensure only properly trained social workers are hired into social work positions. NASW/CT supports statutory title protection to the job title of "Social Worker" or any job title that includes the words "Social Worker" solely to professionals who hold a BSW or MSW degree from a Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accredited program or a PhD in Social Work or DSW. Thirty-eight states have title protection for the job classification of social workers, including our neighboring states: Massachusetts, Vermont, Maine, and New Jersey. Several other states, including Rhode Island, are working toward such recognition.

B. Working with NASW National on Federal Legislation:

NASW/CT will work with National to activate members to act on Action Alerts from National and build relationships with CT US representatives and senators on national issues. The legislation currently identified for support are: Medicare Reimbursement, Affordable Care Act Integration, Student Loan Forgiveness, Social Work Reinvestment Act, Older American Act, Child Welfare, Mental Health, the Social Work Safety Act and Social Work Advocacy.

C. NASW/CT Professional Guild, Education, & Research Issues for 2019:

Professional guild goals to be focused on in 2019 are the role of social workers in the community and working with legislators to understand our impact, need for title protection, and increasing the number of social workers employed in CT. NASW/CT will work to connect legislators to relevant social work research on issues before them. A goal of NASW/CT this legislative session is to connect and build an informal caucus among all social work legislators (seven in total).

NASW/CT will continue to engage with the CT social work universities and strive to better engage professors and students to lobby and inform CT state Senators and Representatives.

D. NASW/CT Public Funding and Revenue Goals:

1- NASW/CT holds the position that every Connecticut resident and family should be able to meet their basic human needs. We oppose cuts to safety net programs that serve Connecticut's most vulnerable populations and support proposals that prevent individuals and families from falling into poverty with little to no, or inadequate resources to self-sufficiency.

2- NASW/CT is focused on maintaining safety net services, employment, mental health and substance abuse programs, or preventions programs. Increased revenue or reallocation of resources advocated for may include: voluntary tax contribution for additional mental health service funding or offering a vanity plate ("CT Cares"), tax reform that balances the amount of taxes paid by the state's poorest and wealthiest, "sunsetting" of various tax breaks, reinstituting the luxury tax, re-configuring tobacco tax or revenue from casinos to mental health and addiction services, reallocating funds from incarceration to decarceration, taxes on opioid drug companies used for substance abuse treatment, promoting an equitable formula for state school funding, and regionalization of public services.

Legislative Agenda, continued

NASW/CT Legislative Action Issues

NASW/CT will work on specific bills, within our Chapter's resources, using the coalition advocacy model that may include, but are not limited to, these areas that may have legislation introduced:

- Paid Family Leave and Medical Leave
- Pay Equity
- Increase minimum wage to living wage
- Sexual Harassment Training and Protections
- Full funding of Care4Kids
- CT renewable energy to 100% by 2050
- Fully funded and equitably founded system of public education
- Protect and expand Medicaid program
- Lower prescription drug prices
- Ensure access to dental care for low income individuals
- Ensure continuation for citizens Election Program
- Tuition free/Debt Free community college
- Expand CT Second Chance Program
- Bail reform
- Bills related to ending the school to prison pipeline
- Ensure funding and expansion of early intervention programs and School Based Health Clinics.
- Provide mental health, trauma and mental health first aid training of teachers, administrators, and other school staff to create and promote emotionally safe classrooms.
- Mental Health Parity in insurance
- Coordinating funding across child serving systems
- Reproductive health services
- Improvement in services for citizens struggling with opioid addiction
- Inclusive language for LGBTQIA community
- Broaden rights of all adoptees to have access to original birth certificate
- Voting Reforms
- Support adequate provider rates for private practice
- Increase access to emergency housing and efforts to provide long term affordable housing
- Support of rapid rehousing and coordinated access networks
- End human trafficking and childhood marriage in CT
- Support of legislation focusing on increased resources the DACA and immigrant families.
- Support of legislation that limits ICE from detaining immigrants and support of CT sanctuary cities.
- Access to social work, mental health and medical services, and holistic services provided in the home for all ages.
- Maintain and increase access to food and proper nutrition
- Gun violence prevention and school safety
- Criminal sentencing reform
- Integration of services crisis teams, police, courts shelters hospitals and community based mental health and social work services
- Decarceration and jail diversion with use of risk assessments and proactive reentry services
- Use of Medicaid funds to increase improve services such as case management, transportation and improved medical and mental health service provision and client empowerment
- Increase time allowed to report rape or sexual abuse in CT
- Increase coordination of community and veteran services in CT
- Expanding the right to vote for people currently incarcerated.
- Progressive revenue streams
- Adequately fund community based mental health services

NASW/CT will be reaching out to all of our members as bills are introduced that need our action. If you want to be an active part of our 2019 legislative work and be connected to our Legislative Committee submit your name and areas of interest to info.naswct@socalworkers.org

JOB SEEKERS LIST

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A POSITION IN SOCIAL WORK?

Sign up for job seekers e-listings!

FREE FOR MEMBERS

To SIGN UP for the JOB SEEKERS LIST

Please email:

MMaxwell.naswct@socialworkers.org

Subject line:

Job Seekers

NASW is committed to helping members meet their professional development needs through credentials, training courses, newsletters, consultations, employment information, job search tools and publications.

CAREER RESOURCES

Kick-Start Your Job Hunt:

<http://www.socialworkers.org/Careers/Career-Center/Kickstart-Your-Job-Hunt>

Social Work Smart Brief:

<https://www2.smartbrief.com/getLast.action?mode=sample&b=NASW>

Career Development Webinars:

<http://www.socialworkers.org/NASWLogin?returnurl=%2fCareers%2fCareer-Center%2fCareer-Development%2fCareer-Development-Webinars>

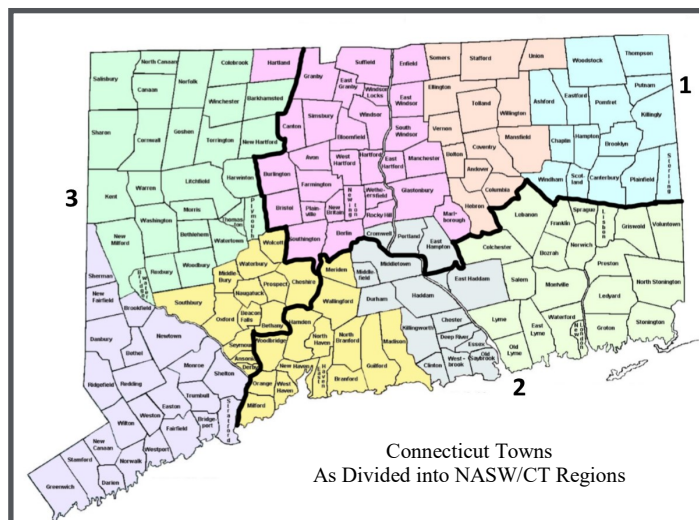
NASW Classified Advertisements:

<http://naswct.org/view/classified-advertisements-employment/>

Tips for Job Searching, Resumes and Interviews:

<http://naswct.org/professional-information/employment-jobs/>

NASW/Connecticut Chapter Regional Network Meetings



- ⇒ Connect with others in your geographical area
- ⇒ Earn affordable Continuing Education Credits (CECs)
- ⇒ Stay well-informed on trends in social work

Inexpensive way to fulfill licensure requirements!

***Regions are for convenience. All meetings are open to all disciplines, so feel free to attend any meeting of interest in any part of the state. The cost to non-members and licensed professionals who are not social workers who want CECs is \$25.00.**

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|---|
| • Several locations | • Key topics | • Convenient learning |
| • \$10 per meeting/workshop for members | • Qualified presenters | • Engage with new social workers |
| • 1 hour 30 minutes each workshop | • Variety of dates/times | • Network with experienced social workers |
| • 1.5 CECs | • NASW/CT approved | |
| | • Certificates provided | |

**Stay tuned for the Regional Network Meeting Schedule distributed monthly via Constant Contact.
Don't unsubscribe or you'll miss out!**

For more information contact Liz Roberts: eroberts.naswct@socialworkers.org
Or, visit: naswct.org/events/categories/regional-meetings/

SOCIAL WORK TITLE PROTECTION IN 2019

The Connecticut Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW/CT) is introducing a bill in the Legislature for Social Work Title Protection to protect vulnerable consumers from receiving sub-standard services and ensuring only professionally trained social workers can hold the title of social worker.

NASW/CT supports statutory title protection to the job title of "Social Worker" or any job title that includes the words "Social Worker" solely to professionals who hold a BSW or MSW degree from a Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accredited program or a DSW.

Thirty-one states have title protection for the job classification of social workers, including Massachusetts, Vermont, Maine, and New Jersey and several other states, including Rhode Island, are working toward such recognition.

As of this writing, the following legislators have agreed to introduce a title protection bill: Catherine Abercrombie; Rick Lopes, MSW; Cristin McCarthy Vahey, MSW; Jillian Gilchrest, MSW; Ann Hughes, LCSW; Pat Wilson Pheanious, MSW. Additional legislators may sign on to introduce a bill. By having multiple legislators submitting a bill shows widespread support for the legislation.

WHY PROTECT THE SOCIAL WORK TITLE?

To ensure Social Workers are professionally trained and educated to work with diverse populations by attaining a degree(s) in Social Work that includes rigorous curriculum in cultural differences, ethical practice, human behavior and therapeutic treatments.

To ensure Social Workers are bound by NASW Code of Ethics, which provides ethical standards to which the public can hold the Social Worker accountable to. This is not the case for a person who is a Social worker by title only. Consumers have no protection or regulatory recourse to file a complaint against a social worker by title only.

To ensure Social Workers are held to strict confidentiality with their consumers. State law recognizes the confidentiality and privilege of social work records and communications between the social worker and the client. But such rights, which belong to the client, may not be in effect if the "social worker" is not a professional social worker. It is both an unfair burden on the client and unreasonable expectation to expect a client to know if their social worker is indeed a professional social worker.

To ensure that individuals who lose their license in another state cannot practice in Connecticut. Without title protection, anyone could be called a social worker in Connecticut. There is nothing to stop a worker who harmed a consumer in another state to repeat that offense in Connecticut.

To ensure vulnerable consumers know they are getting exceptional social work services. Misuse of the social work title is not only a form of misrepresentation by the worker, but also the employer. Title protection would prevent employers from advertising false services.

Other professions would not stand for the misuse of their title by a person with sub-substandard qualifications, why should Social Work be any different? In many other consumer care professions, individuals who have not attained certain formal training cannot refer to themselves as a member of such profession. Under existing state law, nursing, medicine, psychology, law, physical therapy, massage therapy, etc., all require the appropriate degree to use the title.

We will be asking our members to contact their legislators in support as the bill makes its way through the legislative process. **Constituent contacts will be the key to success!** For more information contact: Stephen Wanczyk-Karp, LMSW, NASW/CT, 2139 Silas Deane Hwy., Suite 205, Rocky Hill, CT 06067, (860) 257-8066 or skarp.naswct@socialworkers.org





March 1 & 2, 2019

UConn School of Social Work
Hartford, CT

Deciding when and how to Run for Office
Campaign Planning · **FUNDRAISING** · Communicating Your Message
USING SOCIAL MEDIA · **Public Speaking**
Career Paths for Social Workers in Political Settings

The Hartford Club
46 Prospect Street
Hartford, CT

FRIDAY

8:30am Registration
9:00am - 5:00pm
Reception following

SATURDAY

9:00am - 4:00pm
lunch provided both days

TO REGISTER

Visit us online
<http://s.uconn.edu/cs2019>

\$75 Students
\$199 All Others

10% discount for paid registrations
before 2/1/19

Attendees eligible to earn 12 CECs.



politicalinstitute@uconn.edu



959-200-3631

The Campaign School for Social Workers is for anyone who wants to be more politically active as a candidate, staff, volunteer and/or advocate. Taught through the lens of the profession's values and Code of Ethics, this powerful workshop also addresses issues like race, identity and ethics in politics.

Day One focuses on how to prepare for and run a winning campaign, including messaging, voter contact, fundraising and leadership.

Led by Kate Coyne-McCoy, MSW president of nationally recognized Campaign Fixer / KCM Consulting, who has trained more than 8,000 candidates and assisted with hundreds of successful elections.

Day Two features interactive workshops, small group activities and panel discussions with highly regarded political social workers and elected officials.

Register early as space is limited!

[Nancy A. Humphreys Institute](#)
for Political Social Work

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT
School of Social Work
38 Prospect St. • Hartford, CT 06103
Tanya Rhodes Smith • 959-200-3631
tanya.smith@uconn.edu

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Supported by:

NASW
National Association of Social Workers
CONNECTICUT CHAPTER

Save the Date



**NASW/CT's
34th Annual Conference**

May 3, 2019

Red Lion Hotel, Cromwell, CT

Join your colleagues for an amazing day of varied workshops, exhibitors with resources, networking, a student poster session, a wine and cheese reception, and great camaraderie with other social workers and those in allied mental health professions.

This is the only conference of its kind in Connecticut—eclectic in its topics but focused on the mission of social work and social work education*.

Earn 6 CECs for the day!

*With workshops that will satisfy requirements for Cultural Competency and Veterans Services.

Registration details and the brochure describing all the workshops will be available at www.naswct.org the middle of February 2019.



National Association of Social Workers

Sponsor & Exhibitor Invitation

NASW/CT's 34th Annual Conference



May 3, 2019

Radisson Cromwell, Cromwell, CT

Yes, we would like to join you for this occasion.

Please sign us up!

Organization:

Address:

Contact Person:

Phone Number

Fax Number:

Email Address:

- **PARTNERING SPONSOR** \$ 3000
- **TOTE BAG SPONSOR (deadline 4/5/19)** \$ 1500
- **BROCHURE SPONSOR (deadline 2/8/19)** \$ 1000
- **Keynote Speaker Sponsor** \$ 750
- **Lunch Sponsor** \$ 550
- **Exhibit Table** \$ 450
- **Wine & Cheese Reception Sponsor** \$ 350
- **Breakfast Sponsor** \$ 350
- **Workshop Sponsor** \$ 150
- **Packet Sponsor (deadline 4/30/19)** \$ 75

Please make checks payable to: National Association of Social Workers, CT Chapter,
2139 Silas Deane Highway, Ste. 205, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

OR call the office (860) 257-8066 to pay by credit card or pay online at www.naswct.org

NASW/CT Conference Sponsorship Opportunities and Fees

PARTNERING SPONSOR \$3000

This top echelon sponsorship, significantly supporting the state's professional social worker organization's conference, will be acknowledged in all the chapter's promotional conference materials, emails to members, event signage, and the conference brochure.

- Recognition during the Conference's Opening Session
- All staff employed by the Partnering Sponsor may attend the Conference at NASW/CT Member prices, a savings of 20%
- Additionally, 2 FREE Registrations for the Conference for social workers from your agency or organization
- A full page ad in the Conference Brochure if sponsorship decided by 2/15/19 print deadline; otherwise a free full paid ad in the "Connections" Newsletter
- Your Logo printed on the "earth friendly" Conference Tote Bag and signage acknowledging your support displayed at Conference
- A RESERVED Table in a prime location in the Exhibit Area including 4 complimentary lunches for exhibitors
- Additional benefits include those offered to Packet Sponsors

CONFERENCE TOTE BAG SPONSOR \$1500

This sponsorship is an opportunity to subsidize the popular "earth friendly" conference tote bag, have your company or organization logo prominently displayed on the bag, and gain significant distinction as a conference supporter. (Limited to 2 sponsorships per side)

- Visibility and Acknowledgement with your logo in the Conference Brochure if sponsorship decision made by 2/15/19, otherwise deadline is 4/5/19
- Recognition during the Conference Opening Session
- 1 Free Registration for the Conference for a social worker from your agency
- A RESERVED Table in a prime location in the Exhibit Area including 2 complimentary lunches
- Additional benefits include all those offered to Packet Sponsors

BROCHURE SPONSOR \$1000/\$900

This sponsorship provides extraordinary help in printing the conference brochure which is distributed to over 3000 people and will set your company or organization apart as a NASW/CT supporter. Inside front cover is \$1000; inside back cover is \$900.

- Visibility and Acknowledgement with your logo in the Conference Brochure if sponsorship decided by 2/15/19
- Recognition during the Conference's Opening Session
- 2 Free Registrations for the Conference for social workers from your agency
- A RESERVED Table in a prime location in the Exhibit Area including 4 complimentary lunches
- Additional benefits include all those offered to Packet Sponsors

KEYNOTE SPONSOR \$750

This sponsorship assists NASW/CT with the keynote honorarium and places your company or organization in the forefront.

- Visibility and Acknowledgement with your logo in the Conference Brochure if sponsorship decided by 2/15/19; otherwise no deadline
- Recognition during the Conference's Opening Session and special event signage acknowledging Keynote Speaker Sponsorship
- A Table in the Exhibit Area including 2 complimentary lunches
- Additional benefits include all those offered to Packet Sponsors

NASW/CT Conference Sponsorship Opportunities and Fees, continued

LUNCH SPONSOR \$550

Participate by sponsoring the mid-day luncheon when important networking and connections occur.

- A Special Thank You during the luncheon hour and event signage acknowledging the sponsorship
- One ½ price Conference Registration for a social worker from your agency
- A Table in the Exhibit Area including 2 complimentary lunches
- Additional benefits include all those offered to Packet Sponsors

EXHIBIT TABLE SPONSOR \$450

A great opportunity to increase your visibility and bring your company or organization directly to the conference attendees.

- A Table in the Exhibit Area including 2 complimentary lunches (no deadline as long as tables are available)
- ONE ½ price Conference Registration for a social worker from your agency
- Recognition in the conference packet
- Acknowledgement in the NASW/CT “Connections” Newsletter

WINE & CHEESE RECEPTION SPONSOR \$350

Contribute to the Conference and display your logo when attendees relax and mingle at the end of the conference

- Acknowledgement at the Wine and Cheese table with event signage
- Recognition in the conference packet
- Acknowledgement in the NASW/CT “Connections” Newsletter

COFFEE BREAK SPONSOR \$350

Contribute to the Conference and display your logo when attendees arrive and go for that important cup of coffee.

- Acknowledgement at the Coffee Service tables with event signage
- Recognition in the conference packet
- Acknowledgement in the NASW/CT “Connections” Newsletter

WORKSHOP SPONSOR \$150

Sponsor an individual workshop in an area of particular interest to your company or organization or when one of your employees or co-workers is presenting.

- Acknowledgement in the Conference Brochure at the Workshop description if sponsorship decided by 2/15/19; otherwise no deadline
- Recognition in the conference packet
- Acknowledgement in the NASW/CT “Connections” newsletter

PACKET SPONSOR \$75

An ideal option for non-profit organizations or those with limited budgets, this is a great way to reach every conference attendee.

- An Agency Brochure or Flyer, pen, pencil, or other business novelty, inserted into each conference attendee’s packet (deadline 4/30/19)
- Recognition in the conference packet
- Acknowledgement in the NASW/CT “Connections” newsletter

NASW/CT's 34th Annual Conference



May 3, 2019

Red Lion Hotel, Cromwell, CT

Conference Brochure Ad Form

Organization: _____

Contact Person: _____ Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Advertising Rates

Type of Ad	Size	Fee
<input type="checkbox"/> Business Card Display Ad	3 1/2 x 2	\$90.00
<input type="checkbox"/> 1/4 Page Display Ad	3 1/2 x 4 3/4	\$195.00
<input type="checkbox"/> 1/2 Page Display Ad	7 1/4 x 4 3/4	\$275.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Page Display Ad	7 1/4 x 9 3/4	\$400.00

Please mail form and BLACK AND WHITE camera ready artwork—in JPEG please-- to:

NASW/CT Conference Brochure Book
2139 Silas Deane Hwy., Suite 205
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Email your ad to: info.naswct@socialworkers.org by February 15, 2019

For questions please call 860-257-8066 or email us at info.naswct@socialworkers.org

Our conference brochure will be distributed to over 3000 Social Workers!

Contact Information

2139 Silas Deane Highway, Suite 205
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

(860) 257-8066
Fax: (860) 257-8074

naswct.naswct@socialworkers.org
www.naswct.org

Change Membership Data
National Office, DC
*Members can make changes online

800-742-4089*
www.socialworkers.org

NASW Assurance Services

855-385-2160

LCSW Exam Application—Department of Health

800-509-7603

Ethical Questions
Stephen Wanczyk-Karp, NASW/CT Executive Director

860-257-8066 x202
skarp.naswct@socialworkers.org

Committee Participation
NASW/CT Chapter Staff

860-257-8066

Licensing Questions
NASW/CT Chapter Staff

860-257-8066

Continuing Education Information/Conference Questions
Pat Hartman, NASW/CT Coordinator of
Professional Development

860-257-8066 x204
phartman.naswct@socialworkers.org

Bookkeeping
Nicole LePore, NASW/CT Bookkeeper

860-257-8066 x203
naswbookkeeper.naswct@socialworkers.org

Membership and Continuing Education Associate
Liz Roberts, MSW, NASW/CT Coordinator of
Membership Services

860-257-8066 x 205
eroberts.naswct@socialworkers.org

Website, Newsletter, Advertising & Labels
Meghan Maxwell, NASW/CT Office Administrator

860-257-8066
mmaxwell.naswct@socialworkers.org