

CONNECTIONS

January—March 2020

"No, I will not."

Rosa Parks, 1955

President's Column	2	Frequently Asked Practice Questions	13
Executive Director's Column	3-4	School Social Workers Conference	14
Members in the News	5	Annual Awards Dinner	15-20
Municipal Social Work Jobs Campaign Begins	5	35th Annual Conference	21-23
Study Lauds Social Work Practice	7	Macro Social Workers Network	24
Conducting Exposure Therapy for Anxiety Disorders	8	Social Work Examination Services 2020 Schedule	25
NASW/CT Legislative Agenda	9-10	Call for Election Nominations	26
Advocacy Fund Drive	11	Increase in Online CE Hours Sought	27
Federal Legislative Alert	12	Website Reminders	28



Michelle Kenefick, LCSW, SEP
President, Connecticut Chapter

Accomplishments and Future Successes

It's that time again!!!! A new year, darkness turning to light again and an opportunity to reflect on what we've accomplished and what we are looking forward to as we ring in 2020 – a new decade!!!

Let's talk about accomplishments in 2019:

1. Title Protection – passed on first effort!!!
2. Preferential hiring for state jobs became codified into state law with Title Protection bill
3. 7 Social Workers in the CT legislature!!!
4. Sold out Annual Conference (largest ever and sold out for 3rd year in a row!)
5. Successful Annual Dinner (repeat!)
6. Six newly elected Board members (4 in Executive leadership positions)
7. Successful Lobby Day Training in October at the Capital

I noted in my previous column that National offered a list entitled "My Promise to Myself" as part of a reminder of some of the things available to us through our membership. I expressed my intention to fulfill these items in the coming months. I am excited to share with you that I have accomplished 4 of 7 challenges or promises!

- Attend a live NASW chapter event in my area – COMPLETED
- Introduce myself to colleagues in the online MyNASW member community - COMPLETED
- Keep my NASW Member Account updated with my practice area, work setting, and other professional information to ensure that NASW knows what resources I need – COMPLETED
- Start a conversation with co-workers about an article from Social Work Advocates magazine – COMPLETED
- Take a free course on the NASW Code of Ethics,

available on demand at the NASW Social Work Online CE Institute

- Listen to the NASW Social Work Talks podcast on self-care, Episode 17: Self Care and Avoiding Burnout
- Celebrate the difference I am making on the job and in my community during Social Work month (March)

I truly hope each of you will join me in taking advantage of these offerings as well as a multitude of others that come with your membership.

Now, on to 2020 – we have a busy legislative agenda for a short session that begins in February. We remain dedicated to advocating for the advancement of our profession as well as for those people and communities we serve. Highlights of that agenda include ensuring that Safety Net Services are maintained and expanded, that we are working and advocating for economic justice, criminal justice reform, racial and social justice among many other vital areas. This effort is led by ELAN and we are deeply grateful to Maggie Goodwin and Ashley Blanchard who co-chair this vital committee and ensure that as a Chapter, we are aware of critically important pieces of legislation and budget that require all our action to ensure that we and those we serve are protected. The Chapter will be asking the Public Health Committee to increase the number of online CECs that can be used for licensing from 6 to 10 hours. We are also working closely to develop relationships with municipalities throughout the State to encourage cities and towns to employ professional Social Workers – in line with the goals of Title Protection.

As always, a new year brings many challenges and we remain committed to ensuring that you as our Members can feel proud of the work we do. May the new year bring all of us peace, good health and prosperity!

Thoughts As We Begin 2020



Steve Wanczyk-Karp, LMSW
Executive Director
Connecticut Chapter

As we begin the new year, I thought I would share with you some of my hopes and plans for the Chapter in the next 12 months. In some ways it is hard to believe that we are entering the third decade of the 2000's and I am in my 43rd year as a social worker. I suppose I could make this column thoughts on 43 years, but then we would not have room for the President's column!

My number one goal for the chapter is to start to re-grow membership. In general, membership associations are seeing declines in members and NASW is not an exception. NASW has recently completed a survey of members and non-members and I look forward to learning the results. It should help guide me as to what we are doing well, where we need to improve, what we are not doing that we should be doing, and what we might discontinue doing so as to best reallocate resources. I am hoping that at least 2% of the Chapter's membership participated in the survey, however if you are among the 98% that did not, fear not. You can email me at skarp.naswct@socialworkers.org or call 860-257-8066 to let me know where you see the value in NASW, what we can do better, where you would like to see this Chapter be programmatically, and what role you will play in making it happen. I am especially eager to hear from students as our chapter's student membership has dropped by 29% in the past three years, even

while we are one of the top 9 chapters in the country for percentage of regular category members (MSW & BSW). Students, how can we best meet your professional needs?

I am excited to begin to fully implement the Chapter's plan to encourage municipalities to employ professional social workers. This campaign, based on the successful state jobs campaign that codified into law preference in hiring of professional social workers at state agencies, now focuses our efforts on the abundance of employment opportunities in our cities and towns. Social service departments, senior centers, schools, libraries, police departments, youth bureaus and more, municipalities have many appropriate positions for social workers. Through a multi-year effort, I hope to see us change the landscape of employment so that individuals and families receiving local sector public social services are having those services provided by a professionally trained social worker. Clients in the private sectors are much more likely to be helped by a professionally trained worker than those in the public sector. That is finally changing for the state public sector (thanks to NASW/CT) and now it needs to change at the local level too. **You can help with this campaign by letting us know when you learn of a social service position opening in your city or town. It is when jobs come open that we**

2020 continued

have the best opportunity to influence the hiring process.

I have high hopes for the level of involvement and successful outcomes of the 2020 election. NASW will not make a presidential endorsement until after the party conventions, and NASW/CT will not make endorsement until after primaries but, when the time comes, I look to have a stronger than usual turnout of members to help work for endorsed candidates. The Chapter's influence with the legislative branch is much heightened when we have helped to elect legislators. With a wide range of issues facing our state and nation the voice of social work is greatly needed. I am looking for social work to be well heard from each corner of the state and all geography in between.

The Chapter functions by the good work of our volunteer leaders. While I think some people envision a sizable staff, I am 50% of the full-time staff and all together we are a staff of 2.9% FTEs. Some years, such as this one, we are able to augment our staffing with interns. Still we are not, nor should we ever be, staff driven at the state Chapter level. We are a membership association so that means the membership are actively involved in the policy and programmatic aspects of the Chapter. To assure we remain volunteer driven I hope to meet a significant number of new volunteer leaders to add to the current group of leadership. Your ideas, feedback, and time is sought to make NASW/CT even stronger in 2020.

Continuing education is one of the hallmarks of professional associations and I want to see our continuing education offerings expand in 2020. The Chapter has not developed online programs up to now. 2020 is a good time to begin. In 2019 we began to run an increased number of workshops, including summer programs and I seek to build on that schedule in 2020. Let me hear from you as to topics and speakers (perhaps including you) that

you would like to see on our continuing education calendar. Plus, we are always looking for inexpensive venues that can hold 50-150 participants, have adequate parking, and are in accessible locations, so if you know of places let us know! Our annual conference has become the premier social work conference in Connecticut and in 2020 I want social workers throughout the state saying the same of all of our continuing education workshops.

My final goal that I will share with you in this column is my desire to put the CT Chapter on a stronger financial footing. Our membership dues make up about 55% of the Chapter's budget. Writings on association management call for dues to be less than half of an operating budget. We have improved over the years (when I started here years ago dues were 70-75% of the budget), yet we have some work to do in non-dues revenue. At the same time, we need to attract new members and retain current members as dues will always be the foundation of the Chapter's fiscal stability. We have a strong Board of Directors that have focused much attention on the budget and raising non-dues revenue. I am very much appreciative of their work. You can help us to stay fiscally strong (and thus have the dollars to effectively protect the profession in CT) by attending at least one Chapter continuing education program, by donating to our advocacy fund drive, inviting me to speak at your agency about NASW, and by encouraging your colleagues who are not yet members to become members. If each of you do at least one of these things we will be in great shape and I can stop worrying about the budget!

I am looking forward to 2020 because I am fortunate to have a job I love; because you have entrusted me to steward this Chapter and represent the profession to the larger community; because my days are varied as to the work to be done; and because I get to hear from, and work for you. Thank you for this honor.

Members in the News

The National NASW Committee on Nominations and Leadership Identification has announced the preliminary election slate for 2020. **Kurt Fuchs, LCSW** and **Monica Harrison, LCSW** are candidates for the position of Regional Representative to the National Board of Directors for the CT and NYC chapters.

CT Chapter president, Michelle Kenefick has appointed **Shazia Chaudhry** and **Jack Paul Gesino** as co-chairs of the NASW/CT Aging Committee, and **Yvette Odom** as chair of the Chapters' Ethics Committee.

Municipal Social Work Jobs Campaign Begins

NASW/CT has embarked on a campaign to expand social worker's opportunities for municipal employment and by so doing increase the access of city and town residents to professional social work services. The campaign, modeled after the hugely successful state jobs campaign, will encourage localities to give preference in hiring to MSWs & BSWs for positions in social service programs. Potential employment opportunities include but, are not limited to the following departments: social services, senior centers, youth bureaus, libraries, and police.

The campaign is currently in its first stage, seeking endorsement from schools of social work, sister professional associations, and advocacy organizations. We are pleased to report that as of December 20, 2019 the following schools and departments of social work have officially signed on as supporters: Central CT State University, Eastern CT State University, Fairfield University, Quinnipiac University, Sacred Heart University, University of CT, University of Saint Joseph.

Chapter staff and leadership are in the process of meeting with potential organizational supporters. Meetings have been held with the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, CT Chapter; The Alliance Voice of Community Non-Profits and the CT Local Administrators of Social Services. Other meetings are being scheduled in early 2020 with the CT Conference of Municipalities, CT Council of Small Towns, CT Nurses Association, and the CT Library Consortium.

Members can assist the campaign by sharing with the chapter office if you learn of a municipal job opening for a position that would be appropriate for a social worker to hold. One of the best ways to build up social worker employment in municipalities is to be able to make our case for preference in hiring when a position is posted. Additionally, if you live in a city or town where a new mayor or first selectman has been elected this past November, please let us know. New administrations may be seeking to make changes and be open to discussion on the value of hiring professional social workers. Contact Stephen Wanczyk-Karp, executive director at skarp.naswct@sociaworkers.org to share your information.

Endorsing Organizations for the Municipal Social Work Jobs Campaign

Alliance of School Social Workers, A network of NASW/CT

Central CT State University, Social Work Department

Eastern CT State University, Social Work Department

Fairfield University, BSW & MSW Programs

National Association of Social Workers, CT Chapter

Quinnipiac University, MSW Program

Sacred Heart University, Social Work Department

The Alliance Voice of Community Nonprofits

UConn School of Social Work

University of Saint Joseph, Department of Social Work & Equitable Community Practice

Updated as of January 4, 2020

Seeking a Job? Sign Up for the Job Seekers Emails

Many jobs are not advertised widely. Many of them are now posted on employer websites only or by word of mouth. NASW/CT often learns of jobs through various sources. As a NASW member you can gain FREE access to any job postings that we hear about.

When NASW/CT gets a job posted on our website or just learns of a position, we send out the information to **members** who have joined the Job Seekers List. To receive postings simply email Meghan Maxwell at mmaxwell.naswct@socialworkers.org and in the subject line write "job seekers list". We will need your name and preferred email address for receiving notices. Once we verify your membership you will get job postings as we learn of them.

Study Lauds Social Work Practice

A National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Consensus study on *Integrating Social Care into the Delivery of Health Care*, released in September, outlines numerous recommendations that have implications for social work policy, practice and professional development. The study, which recognizes social workers as “specialists in social care”, recommends that regulatory agencies expand the scopes of practice of social workers in order to build the workforce to address the social (e.g. non-medical) factors that play a key role in health outcomes. These factors, also called the social determinants of health, include stable housing, reliable transportation and economic security. There is consistent and compelling evidence that addressing the social factors in health is critical in improving prevention and treatment of acute and chronic illnesses. The study also calls for the adequate payment of social workers to ensure a sufficient social care workforce.

NASW will be conducting a webinar on the study January 15 from 2:30-3:30 PM (Eastern). Presenters include two social workers who were on the study committee: Robyn Golden, LCSW, Professor and Associate Vice President of Population Health and Aging, Rush University, and Tamara Cadet, PhD, LICSW, MPH, Associate Professor, Simmons School of Social Work. Stay tuned for more details.



TRUE COLORS XXVII: JUST AS I AM

MARCH 20 & 21, 2020

UConn, Storrs

- Want an engaging, educational & inexpensive way to earn UP TO NINE (9) Diversity CECs?
- Want to build your clinical skills with a growing population?
- Want to explore best practices with LGBTQ+ youth and families?

Register Now: <https://ourtruecolors.org/conference/register/>

NASW/CT and The Village for Families and Children are pleased to invite you to attend

Today, anxiety disorders are the most common mental illness across the country, with 40 million adults affected every year according to the Anxiety and Depression Association of America. Living with anxiety is not easy and this condition can, for many, be debilitating and negatively affect their lives, interfering with their ability to function normally in everyday activities. Exposure therapy is an evidence-based treatment for anxiety-related disorders including phobias, panic disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, and posttraumatic stress disorder. This workshop will describe psychological and neurobiological mechanisms of exposure-based therapy, including recent advances in inhibitory learning theory. The presenter will address several myths that contribute to the under-utilization of this treatment, and data that counters those myths. Using both didactic presentation and video vignettes, the presenter will use discussion and demonstration of the use of in vivo exposure, imaginal exposure, and interoceptive exposure for a range of anxiety-related problems. Several efficacy-boosting strategies will also be part of the discussion (e.g., motivational interviewing, using rational thinking skills, and acceptance strategies) for difficult-to-treat patients. Our presenter for this timely and valuable workshop is

Founder and Director of
Anxiety Disorders Center & Center for Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Institute of Living



8:30 to 9:00 Registration and Light Breakfast
9:00 to 4:00 Program with an hour break for Lunch
Trumbull Robinson Auditorium at

The Village for Families & Children, 1680 Albany Avenue, Hartford 06105
Co-sponsored by The Village for Families and Children

This workshop is a special Social Work Month offering, limited to only 100 attendees and eligible for 6 CECs.
The cost is \$100 for NASW Members and \$150 for yet to be Members
Cost includes a light breakfast and lunch. [Click here to register.](#)

NASW/CT 2020 Legislative Agenda



The National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Connecticut Chapter priorities are designed to make progress toward the National NASW 2016 Grand Challenges of tackling our nation's toughest social problems. Such challenges include: Ensuring healthy development of all youth; Closing the health gap; Ending family violence; Advancing long and productive lives; Eradicating social isolation; Ending homelessness; Creating social responses to a changing environment; Harnessing technology for social good; Promoting smart decarceration; Building financial capability for all; Reducing extreme economic inequality; and Achieving equal opportunity and Justice. Additionally, in 2018/2019 the NASW national board established 5 social justice priorities. The 5 priorities are: voting rights, criminal justice/juvenile justice, environmental justice, immigration, and economic justice.

The Education for Legislative Action Network (ELAN) committee CT Chapter refers to, and bases the main objectives of our work upon, the above National goals. Specific to Connecticut, ELAN CT (henceforth is referred to as NASW/CT as ELAN CT is its sub-committee) pledges in 2020 to actively support and/or introduce legislation that meets our approved priorities in coordination with CT advocacy coalitions (when appropriate). Additionally, NASW/CT pledges in 2020 to work in a bipartisan manner with CT legislators, particularly with social work legislators while informing and activating our NASW/CT member network, and in turn the clients they serve, promoting advocacy on a grassroots level. NASW/CT pledges in 2020 to organize our membership to advocate in areas where we are uniquely impacted regarding specifics to the social work profession and larger social justice issues facing our state.

All Encompassing Proposed Legislative Goals and Priorities for NASW/CT:

A. Racial and Social Justice

NASW/CT supports legislation that specifically promotes: reduction of inequities relating to race and ethnicity, LGBTQIA+ rights, and maintaining a woman's right to birth control and all reproductive health services. We support access to prevention and early treatment options for young people struggling with substance use, Medicaid coverage for undocumented, gun safety, police training on mental health and crisis intervention. This organization works toward people in Connecticut having and sharing their voice; because of this we support early voting access and voting reform. We support legislation that ensures all residents are treated equally and with respect in all areas of their lives.

B. Economic Justice

NASW/CT supports legislation that specifically promotes: student loan relief, maintaining the earned income tax credit, reducing lead paint issues, education funding, wealth tax, school-based health centers,

Agenda, continued

affordable housing, continuing the fight for pay equity, and ensuring death with dignity. NASW/CT has fought for the economic justices of all people in the past and continues to work toward equality. We also support work to fight climate change by working on topics such as water, fracking, poor air quality, and renewable energy.

C. **Criminal Justice**

NASW/CT supports legislation that specifically promotes: bail reform, juvenile justice reform, elimination of solitary confinement, increases in mental health services during probation, voting rights for those on parole, prison phone justice, and clean slate laws. NASW/CT supports hospitals and community based mental health and substance use services.

D. **Safety Net Services**

NASW/CT works toward fighting for the programs we have in place currently and ensuring that they continue to help our neighbors. Some of these services include, Home health care, Medicaid benefits, medical savings plan, TANF, Care4Kids, SNAP benefits, substance use and opioid treatment support services, mental health services, dental insurance, and a public option. Keeping these protections is extremely important for the success of Connecticut.

E. **NASW/CT Public Funding and Revenue Goals:**

NASW/CT holds the position that every Connecticut resident and family should be able to meet their basic human needs. We jointly 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. Increased revenue or reallocation of resources advocated for may include: voluntary tax contribution for additional mental health service funding, tax reform that increases for households with incomes at or beyond \$500,00 and appropriately balances taxes for households with incomes at or lower than the federal poverty level, "sunsetting" increases of various tax breaks, reinstituting the luxury tax, sugary drink tax, reallocating funds from incarceration to decarceration, restoring capital gains tax, promoting an equitable formula for state school funding, and regionalization of public services.

F. **NASW/CT Professional Guild, Education, & Research Issues for 2020:**

Professional guild goals to be focused on in 2020 are: the role of social workers in the community to increase discussion around the importance of voting and the upcoming census, economic justice, and immigration issues. NASW/CT is focused on increasing the number of social workers in various settings including, but not limited to: schools, nursing homes, municipal settings, and in the criminal justice system. 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 current social work legislators (seven in total).

G. **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, the Social Work Reinvestment Act, the Older American Act, Child Welfare, Mental Health, the Social Work Safety Act, and Social Work Advocacy. We hope to encourage the coordination of other legislative committees in the other states as part of the NASW Chapter Legislative Leadership Group and work with the advocacy and legislative staff of NASW in Washington DC.

The NASW/CT 2020 Advocacy Fund Drive

Help Us Protect & Expand Social Service Funds & Social Justice Laws

Our Legislative Agenda Includes:

Protecting the Safety Net for Connecticut's most vulnerable citizens;
Increasing funding for community non-profit providers;
Protecting Medicaid from funding cuts or reduced reimbursement rate
Fighting Age Discrimination in employment;
School safety and mental health services;
Criminal justice reforms;
Addressing prescription drug costs;
Promoting progressive revenue sources to pay for human services;
Defeating any bills that infringe on social work practice;
Supporting an increase in Medicare rates for LCSWs;
Supporting the Social Worker & Health Care Professionals Safety Act.

100% of your donation goes to the cost of having contract lobbyists that are our "eyes and ears" at the Capitol. Donating today means that NASW/CT is positioned to have maximum legislative and administrative impact.

YES I AM BUILDING SOCIAL WORK POLITICAL POWER!

\$500____ \$250____ \$100____ \$50____
\$35____ \$25____ \$10____ Other____

Name: _____

Address: _____

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Donate Online <http://naswct.org/donate-to-advocacy-fund/> or Check Payable To NASW/CT or credit card using this form:

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Mail To: NASW/CT Advocacy Fund, 2139 Silas Deane Hwy. Ste. 205, Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Check here if you DO NOT want your name listed as a donor in the newsletter: _____

Contributions are an investment in your profession but regrettably not tax deductible.

Federal Legislative Alert

NASW has introduced a **Social Work Safety Bill** in the U.S. Congress. Here in CT we want to have our Congressional delegation to become co-sponsors of the bill. It is difficult to get bills acted upon in Congress making it critical to have enough co-sponsors to bring a bill to a vote. Our goal is to reach out to our 5 House members and 2 Senators during December with a simple message – **co-sponsor the Protecting Social Workers and Health Professionals from Workplace Violence Act.**

What the bill does: The bill creates a grant program within the Department of Health and Human Services for the following purposes:

- ⇒ To allow employers to afford purchase of safety equipment (such as security cameras and GPS locators),
- ⇒ Make facility improvements,
- ⇒ Implement safety training programs,
- ⇒ Provide support services for social workers and other health professionals who have been victims of workplace violence.

Why this bill is needed: Between 2011-13 there were 23,000 **reported** workplace assaults, and nearly 75% were in health care and social services. A 2004 NASW study of 10,000 licensed social workers found that 44% reported personal safety issues at work and 30% felt their employer did not adequately address safety issues. Workplace violence creates loss of employment time for those who are injured, in some cases permanently disables the professional, increases burn out amongst professionals, and client services frequently are setback. **Most social workers have a story to tell and our Congressional delegation needs to hear your personal experiences and the experiences of your colleagues.**

Action Needed This Month: Contact your two U.S. Senators and House Member. Tell them why the **Protecting Social Workers and Health Professionals from Workplace Violence Act** is needed. Ask them to **co-sponsor the bill**. Tell them you are a social worker and a constituent. **Here are your Congressional Contacts:**

Senator Richard Blumenthal – <https://www.blumenthal.senate.gov/contact/> or 202-224-2823.
Bill # S. 2880

Senator Chris Murphy – <https://www.murphy.senate.gov/contact> or 202-224-4041. **Bill # S. 2880**

Representative _____. To find your U.S. Representative go to
<https://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/menu/cgafindleg.asp> . **Bill # H.R. 5138**

For questions contact Stephen Wanczyk-Karp, LMSW at skarp.naswct@socialworkers.org

Thank you for taking action and participating in the Power of Social Work!
PLEASE SHARE THIS ALERT WITH YOUR SOCIAL WORK & HEALTH CARE COLLEAGUES.

Frequently Asked Practice Questions

The chapter staff fields many questions from members on a wide range of topics. Many of these questions have to do with practice matters that arise. In this newsletter we answer questions on supervision related to licensing requirements.

Q: Do I have to have LCSW supervision for my LMSW?

A: No. The LMSW requires that you practice under clinical supervision. Ideally, that supervision is under a LCSW. However, the supervision can be performed by the following: LCSW, LMFT, LPC, APRN, Licensed Psychologist, or Licensed Physician.

Q: How long must I be supervised as a LMSW?

A: In accordance with the state licensure statute LMSWs must have a minimum of monthly supervision for as long as you have the LMSW level of license. The length of time for each supervision session is not specified.

Q: To acquire the LCSW must I have LCSW supervision?

A: Yes, in order to qualify to apply for the LCSW you must have 100 hours of LCSW supervision. The LCSW supervisor must be a CT LCSW or if the practice is in another state the supervisor must be a CT LCSW or a social worker licensed at the highest level of clinical license available in the state where the practice took place. If your practice is in CT the LCSW supervisor must be a CT LCSW.

Q: Does supervision have to be face-to-face and one-to-one?

A: Yes. The supervision must be face-to-face. In-person is strongly recommended though skype or other means that allow the supervisor and supervisee to see each other in real time can be accepted. The supervision must be one-to-one. Group supervision is NOT accepted.

Q: How do I document supervision?

A: It is the responsibility of the supervisor to keep a record of the supervision sessions that includes length of each session, brief description of topics discussed and the date of the session. This record is used by the supervisor when completing the supervision verification form that is submitted to DPH. While not required, we recommend that the supervisee keep their own record of supervision.

Q: Can I have multiple supervisors?

A: Yes. Reasons such as change in jobs or change in assigned supervisor are among the reasons that one may have more than one supervisor.

Q: Can I have more than 1 hour per week of supervision?

A: Yes. There is not an amount of time per week specified in the licensure statute.

Q: How long do I have to complete the 100 hours of supervision?

A: There is not a specific time frame in the license statute. The anticipation is that one receives 1 hour per week during the 3,000 hours of post graduate clinical experience required to be eligible for the LCSW. However, supervision can continue beyond the 3,000 hours of experience, or be for more than 1 hour per week in order to attain the 100 hours quicker.

Q: Must I be practicing clinical social work to receive eligible supervision hours?

A: Yes. The supervision is directly connected to current clinical practice.

Q: What can I do if my agency does not offer LCSW supervision?

A: You can arrange for a LCSW supervisor who is outside of the agency. NASW/CT has a Supervisor's Registry <http://naswct.org/supervisors-registry/>

Q: Can a family member who is a LCSW provide me the supervision?

A: No. The supervisor needs to be able to independently assess the supervisee's practice of clinical social work, which means that family members and personal friends should not be the supervisor.

Q: What can I do if my supervisor declines to complete the supervision verification form?

A: The only reason we have heard for a supervisor not completing the form is if the supervisor feels the supervisee has not successfully completed supervision. In such a case the supervisor should submit the verification form to DPH and indicate any concerns in the section that requests such information. If the supervisor refuses to complete the form you can request that the supervisor speak to NASW/CT staff or you may need to seek legal assistance to get the supervisor to act.

If you have questions you would like to see covered in this new section send them to skarp.naswct@socialworkers.org We will do our best to include your question in an upcoming edition, as well as answer you directly or direct you to a source for response.

School Social Worker Conference in March!

Inside and *Outside* the School House Door Conference
and the School of Health and Human Services' Interprofessional
Education Day join together for a Special 2020 Conference Supporting
K-12 Professionals and Students

TRANSDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES TO EMPATHETIC EDUCATION

Monday, March 23, 2020
8:30 registration, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Southern Connecticut State University
Michael J. Adanti Student Center, Ballroom
345 Fitch Street, New Haven, CT 06515

This year's conference topics are in response to district needs:

Classroom Management
Support for Student Development
Vaping/Substance Use

5 CECs for those attend and complete the entire conference approved by NASW/CT

Event Fee: \$95.00 / \$25.00 for students (no CECs awarded to students)

Lunch is included.



Inside and Outside the School House Door & HHS Interprofessional Educate (IPE) Day, Conference
Chair: Dr. Carmela F. Smith, SCSU Social Work Department. This year's co-sponsor: The Connecticut
Alliance of School Social Workers, a Network of National Association of Social Workers/CT.

[Click here to register.](#)

An Evening of Inspiration: Annual Awards for Colleagues

On November 14, 2019, a group of 90 gathered at the Inn at Middletown to celebrate eight social workers and supporters of the social work mission who have contributed in unique and outstanding ways to our communities and to the profession. This evening is always one of inspiration!

The Chapter honored two legislators this year rather than the traditional one. The two legislators, *Senator Mary Daugherty Abrams* and *Representative Jonathan Steinberg*, were Co-chairs of the Public Health committee and provided invaluable help and support in moving the Social Work Title Protection law through the House and ultimately to a positive Senate vote. We are grateful for their support of social work and their understanding of the value of Title Protection.

Sheldon V. Toubman, JD was the 2019 Public Citizen of the Year. An attorney with the New Haven Legal Assistance Association, Inc., he is one of Connecticut's most ardent advocates for social services. In his job as a staff attorney within the benefits unit at the agency for the past 26 years, Attorney Toubman concentrates on issues related to access to health care, particularly under the Medicaid program. He has worked to help close budget deficits that hurt the poorest and most vulnerable; he has worked to have the state adopt a Basic Health Program for all non-elderly individuals between 133% and 200% of the poverty level; and he has advocated tirelessly for the wealthiest to pay a little more in taxes rather than exacting heavy tolls on those least able to "pay" through drastic cuts to safety nets such as Medicaid.



Public Citizen of the Year, Attorney Sheldon Toubman, with Steve Wanczyk-Karp, NASW/CT Executive Director

Annual Awards, continued

Exhibiting leadership, superb communication skills, and a compassion and respect for the communities he hopes to work with, **Joshua Lee Hager** was the recipient of the BSW Student of the Year award. Presently at the University of Saint Joseph, Joshua has ten years of experience in the Army National Guard and has experienced two tours in Afghanistan. The skills he acquired during this past decade have been helpful to Josh as he pursued the decision to make social work his profession. Recognized as a leader by his peers and faculty members, his long-term goal is to provide mental health service to veterans and explore alternative ways to treat this often-misunderstood population.



Carlton Smith, left, MSW Student of the Year and Joshua Hager, right, BSW Student of the Year

Carlton J. Smith, a 3rd year part-time student at Springfield College in the Graduate Department of Social Work, received the MSW Student of the Year award. As Director of Programs, Domestic Violence Services, at Meriden Wallingford Chrysalis, Carlton juggles this full-time work, school, an internship, volunteer commitments, and his family, while earning an impressive grade point average. Hired in 2013 by Chrysalis for a pilot program called “Real Strength”, a program to engage men and boys to end violence, particularly against women, Carlton added some signature touches to the program. He delivered the program with integrity, thoughtfulness, and humility and in 2015 received the Meriden/Wallingford NAACP Community Service Award for his efforts. Now, as Director of Programs, Carlton continues to excel in serving as a model to other students as well as within his community.

Annual Awards, continued



Professor Rakfeldt accepting award



Professor Rakfeldt with SCSU colleague Lorrie Greenhouse Gardella, JD, LMSW and his wife, daughter, son, and son-in-law

Jaak Rakfeldt, PhD, LCSW, Professor in the Department of Social Work at Southern Connecticut State University as well as Assistant Clinical Professor at the Yale University School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry, was named the Educator of the Year. Professor Rakfeldt has served as an educator not only within university settings, but also in international and local community settings, providing consultations to countless mental health agencies, veteran's administration centers, hospitals, organizations, and schools. He has published in more than 50 publications and presented at more than 100 conferences. A member of councils and committees to numerous to list, throughout his career he has also maintained a clinical practice. But, most importantly, in more than thirty years of teaching he has shared with his students his joy of learning, his compassion for all persons, and his appreciation for the resilience and capacities of every person to live a meaningful life. His zest for education is contagious; he is always there to offer a helping hand to a student or a colleague; and the profession of social work is stronger for Dr. Rakfeldt's many contributions.

Annual Awards, continued

The 2019 Social Worker of the Year award went to *Jason Andrade, LCSW*, School Social Worker at Israel Putnam Elementary School in Meriden. Identified by his colleagues as the go to person in a crisis and a truly gifted clinician, Jason has touched the lives of countless students, families, and staff member with his honesty, his gentleness, his generous heart, and his great sense of humor. Jason has helped many young people during his years at Wheeler Clinic, then at Community Health Care, and now at Israel Putnam for the past 12 years. He has played an integral part in enhancing the school climate and has worked hard to reduce chronic absenteeism. Jason has played a crucial part in the journey of many impressionable young students who were lucky enough to have crossed his path. He is there as a trusted adult, an attentive listener, and a calming influence during times of emotional distress. His passion to help and his positive energy have made an extraordinary impact on his school community and the school's community of parents.



Jason Andrade with his wife, Charissa, to his right, and some of the many school colleagues who came to celebrate with him

Annual Awards, continued

This year's Lifetime Achievement Award went to **Julianne Wayne, EdD, MSW**, a social worker who has made extraordinary contributions to clients, students, colleagues, educators, and the profession of social work for over 55 years. As a leader in the development and implementation of social groupwork, to being a catalyst for change in field education, Julianne Wayne has influenced generations of social work practitioners to become the best social workers they can be. Her co-authored book, Group Work Education in the Field, filled an unmet need within the profession. Believing it was in the Practicum or Field Education where students could integrate theory and practice and develop competence to serve clients, Julianne Wayne was a significant force in identifying Field Education as an equal component in the education of MSW students. With two colleagues she wrote the paper *Field education as the signature pedagogy of social work education: Congruence and disparity*, a paper still recognized as a key paper in subsequent scholarly research and practice writing about field education. Dr. Wayne embodies the finest of social work qualities—the ethics and professional commitment, duty to clients and community, and insight and skill interwoven with appreciation for the joys and challenges of life. Nationally recognized, greatly respected, appreciated for her humor, admired for her diplomacy, the profession is better for her passion for her work.



Julianne Wayne, EdD, MSW, surrounded by her husband, daughter, and grandson and friends from University of Saint Joseph

Annual Awards, continued



From left to right: Legislative volunteer Maggie Goodwin, Senator Mary Daugherty Abrams and NASW/CT Executive Director Steve Wanczyk-Karp

Senator Abrams was unable to join us at the Annual Awards Dinner; her award was presented to her at the Legislative Office Building, pictured above.

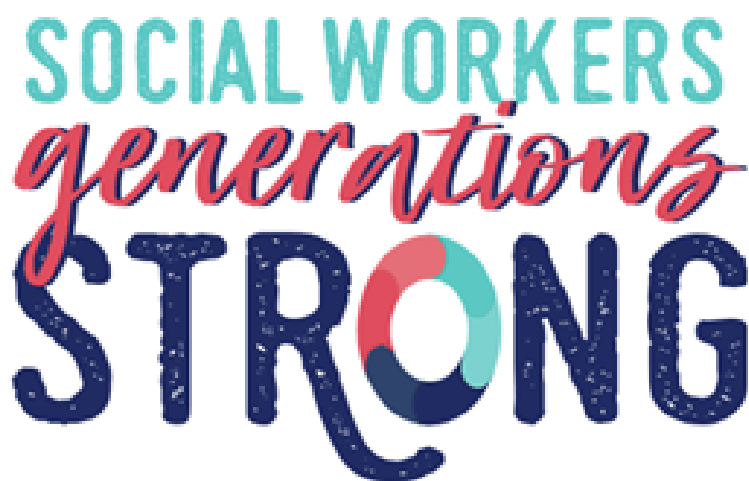
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Registration details and the brochure describing all the workshops will be available at www.naswct.org the middle of February 2020.

NASW/CT's 35th Annual Conference



May 29, 2020

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The 411 on the NASW/CT Macro Social Workers Network Celebrating Our Four-Year Anniversary

Current Chair/Founder: Alberto Cifuentes, Jr., LMSW

Why did I create the Network?

I created the Network fresh out of grad school, the University of Connecticut (UConn) School of Social Work. One of my mentors, John Bonelli, MSW, encouraged me to build a powerful statewide network of macro practitioners that would expand the visibility and amplify the voices of macro social workers. After Steve Karp, LMSW, Executive Director of NASW/CT, supported my efforts and told me about the history of the Community Organizers Network, I adapted their Charge to create the aims and activities of the newly formed Macro Social Workers Network (approved by the Board of Directors in October 2015).

What are the goals of the Network?

The overall purpose of the Network is to provide a professional network for macro social workers to share mutual interests, provide support to each other, and advocate for macro social work as a visible and valuable practice field. Some of our activities include serving as a vehicle for various macro social work practitioners in Connecticut to learn of and connect with each other via our online macro social workers job posting/event listserv; participate in NASW/CT and community projects that utilize macro social work methods and strategies; and engage micro social work practitioners in issues related to macro practice.

What have been some of the Network's accomplishments?

The Network has had three very successful and well-attended annual Macro Social Work Career Panels;

three to four socials a year; a vibrant online listserv of over 200 social workers; and an increased number of macro workshops at the annual NASW/CT Annual Conference.

What have been some of the Network's challenges?

Providing outreach and professional development to BSW and MSW students has been a challenge, but the Network is working on increasing faculty buy-in as well as our capacity to travel to and present at different colleges and universities. In addition, the membership of our steering committee, which does the core of our planning and organizing work, has fluctuated over the years.

What are my hopes for the future of the Network?

Overall, I want more social workers to see the value of being an NASW member and increase membership among macro social workers within NASW/CT. I would also love for there to be more collaboration with other chapter committees and networks. My ultimate goal is to create and sponsor the first-ever statewide Macro Social Workers Conference. There is a great interest for such a conference in Connecticut, and I know many social workers that would love to participate in this endeavor.

If you want to join our online listserv of macro job postings and events, e-mail macroswct15@gmail.com. You can also connect with us via Facebook at www.facebook.com/MacroSWNetwork.



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Call for Election Nominations

Have you thought about taking on a leadership role in your chapter?

Or perhaps you know someone who would make a terrific chapter leader?

If so, now is the time to let us know!

Being an elected leader on the Board of Directors of the NASW/CT Chapter provides you with the opportunity to have a direct say in the chapter's programs, policies, use of resources, and future directions. It's also a terrific way to meet colleagues from throughout the state and to gain a feel for the pulse of social work practice in Connecticut. You will be providing the Association with your expertise and in turn making networking connections that will help in your own career advancement. Truly it is a win, win situation that's enjoyable too!

In developing the ballot, the chapter seeks to successfully meet the chapter's diversity plan, geographic representation, and representation from diverse fields of practice. All nominees are given full consideration and while we may not be able to offer all nominees a place on the ballot these individuals are often considered for other leadership appointments within the Chapter.

NASW/CT is seeking members to serve on the Board of Directors as **second vice president for Budget & Finance, BSW & MSW student representative, At-Large Member (3 positions)**. Terms of office for the Board are for three years, except for students who serve one year.

If you are interested in being nominated for a chapter leadership position, would like to know more about available elected opportunities or would like to recommend a colleague please contact Steve Wanczyk-Karp at the Chapter Office – 860-257-8066 or skarp.naswct@socialworkers.org



Increase in Online Continuing Education Hours Sought

The NASW/CT Board of Directors has approved seeking an increase in the number of online continuing education hours that licensed social workers can apply toward their license renewal. Currently, up to 6 hours per license year can be done online. NASW/CT is seeking to increase that amount to 10 hours per license year.

A review of other states, conducted by NASW/CT interns, found that 32 states allow more hours of online training (as a percentage of required hours) than CT does. The CT percentage is 40% that is also the percentage in Maine. If CT increases the hours to 10 of the 15 required hours our state will be at 66% that is slightly higher most states.

To have the hours increased the CT State Legislator must approve the change. The vehicle for such a change is a bill called the technical revisions bill for public health statutes. This bill is for the purposes of making small, non-controversial, technical changes to public health law.

NASW/CT is asking the Public Health Committee chairs to include this change in the technical revisions bill. The change has the support of the Department of Public Health, which is important as the Department has considerable influence as to what is included in the technical revision bill. If we are successful the 10 hour maximum would likely go into effect on October 1, 2020.

The Value of Membership Spoken by a Member

In December we asked MSW and BSW members why they are members. Here is one of the responses we received.

Why I joined NASW and have been a member since 1999.

I love that NASW advocates for the social work field and fought for title protection. NASW also fights for our rights to reasonable and appropriate pay by advocating for us with insurance companies.

I love that NASW offers a yearly annual conference with excellent workshops and presentations to choose from. I get great pleasure from being at the annual conference surrounded by hundreds of social workers who care about people and our profession, and that a variety of NASW sponsored workshops are offered all year long. Licensing information is also available on the NASW website in a clear, concise manner, as well as other helpful resources such as the Code of Ethics.

I appreciate that NASW advocates legislatively to protect services and programs that benefit the most underprivileged populations. Your legislative alerts are helpful and I appreciate being informed of upcoming bills so that I can contact my legislators when appropriate. I also appreciate NASW's endorsements of candidates because it helps me make informed decisions about voting for people who best represent what I care about.

Thank you, NASW, for all you do.

Mary Ellen Ladd, LCSW
Women's Center for Psychotherapy

Reminders: On Our Website

Seeking Online Education for LCSW Renewal?

Visit the NASW/CT website www.naswct.org and click on the CE INSTITUTE. Here you will find a wide range of online classes and webinars all with continuing education credits. Remember CT LCSW renew allows up to 6 hours of home study including online education. Live webinars count the same as in-person programs.

No matter what practice field you are seeking education on you will find it at the NASW CE INSTITUTE @ <http://naswwa.inreachce.com/>

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Seeking LCSW Supervision?

If you are a LMSW seeking supervision for LCSW eligibility check out the **NASW/CT Supervisors Registry**. Here you will find supervisors that have met the criteria of NASW/CT to offer supervision. Under state law any LCSW can offer clinical LCSW supervision. NASW/CT has a higher standard that we apply to the LCSWs on the **Supervisor's Registry**. Go to <http://naswct.org/supervisors-registry/> to see the full list of available supervisors.

Are you an LCSW seeking to offer supervision? Consider being on the **Supervisors Registry**. For details on qualifications, cost and an online application go to <http://naswct.org/add-new-supervisor-listing/>

November Workshop

On November 22, 2019 a group of over 40 social workers met at The Whitney Center in Hamden to hear a presentation titled "A Journey Through Public Benefits: Medicaid, Medicare, and VA Aid". A workshop eligible for both Veterans Services and Cultural Competency, the Whitney Center generously provide a very comfortable learning space and a delicious light breakfast!



Presented by Steven Rubin, JD and Franklin Drazen, JD from the law firm of Drazen Rubin Law in Milford, the workshop addressed the advancements in medicine and technology that are helping people live longer and thrive in the face of medical challenges and disabilities. However, at the same time, the number of people who will require long-term care at some point in their lives is increasing thus incurring expenses related to aging or disability that are not generally covered under private insurance and Medicare such as home health care, independent living, or nursing home care. In this seminar, the speakers offered attendees and their clients alternative public benefits that might help pay for long-term and disability-related care while learning options to access these benefits without jeopardizing the family's financial future. While the presentation was well received it was determined that the material was a lot to be absorbed and that future seminars should be either longer or separated into two categories. We thank Attorneys Rubin and Drazen for the gift of their knowledge and time and send the Whitney Center a huge thank you for their hospitality and generosity.

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NASW/CT Chapter Staff

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Licensing Questions
NASW/CT Chapter Staff

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