

CONNECTIONS

October—December 2022



When we identify where our privilege intersects with somebody else's oppression, we'll find our opportunities to make real change."

— Ijeoma Oluo

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Healing and Hope

Cheryl Wilson, LCSW, MBA
President, Connecticut Chapter

As I write this column, I am excited about approaching the last quarter of the year, as well as the upcoming holiday season. I am hopeful that we can all spend some quality time with those we care about. I think it is important to reconsider the events that have taken place over the last three years, with an understanding that life is truly precious, and we should not take life for granted.

I am hopeful that we can get into better space individually and collectively, in preparation of the holiday season.

Given some of the challenges we faced, I will focus on the importance of healing for us personally and professionally as an organization. Historically, it has become widely known that social workers are also referred to as “wounded healers”. This saying holds true to the importance of why healing is necessary, especially for those individuals who have chosen to be a part of the healing and helping profession. In the literature, this

concept has been applied to social workers and other helping professionals, describing the ways in which personal behavioral health challenges may present both assets and liabilities to professional practice, with further research recommended regarding the wellness of the social work workforce.

According to the National Institute of Mental Health, the idea of “wounded healers” refers to helping professionals who experience personal challenges that affect their work. The real question is...are you healed enough to help someone else?

The consensus is if we, (who are wounded), can overcome the injuries and pain of our experiences, then we have become a master of the healing arts. However, healing is not linear...and there are a lot of hard spots and bumps along the way. Healing is a lifelong journey, especially when most of the trauma occurred during our early years of life under the direction of unhealed parents.

Healing, continued

Individually, we must take responsibility for our own healing. The healing process starts with acknowledgement of the injury/injuries and identifying the offending party. It's a process that requires a high level of self-awareness and the ability to look inward. A good first step to the healing process is finding a good therapist where trust and healthy communication can be established. A 2nd step is looking towards the healing journey and looking at the existing relationships, both the positives and the negatives...and making the necessary adjustments. Another step in this process is setting boundaries that serve you better than in the past.

As an individual, the healing process can and will look different for each of us. But the most important part of this journey...is simply starting.

Collectively, as a mental health profession, we must continue to do our part in the healing process, as it pertains to racial and social injustices that have occurred over the span of many decades. Again, as social workers...we must look at areas where we did not make racial justice a priority...and acknowledge this...so we can heal for our "lack of" and refocus our vision and fulfill our mission to uphold and support impacted individuals who have

undeniable lived and historical trauma that will take decades to overcome.

As a professional group, we must continue the conversation about racial injustice to see where we all stand. We must acknowledge our shortcomings on this specific issue and we must listen to one another to understand our own fears and discomfort around having an uncomfortable conversation.

"Ignorance is bliss", but it's not an excuse for us to ignore the issue of racial justice like almost everyone did. I think part of the problem is that generally speaking, we don't like "hard". And this...is hard!!!! There are so many layers and different variables in dealing with racial injustices, because by default, the mistreatment of black & brown people became our norm. While most of us agree that the mistreatment of black & brown people is no longer an acceptable practice, we still have a large amount of people who believe the unfair treatment of the BIPOC community has its' place and is appropriate, even in our current times.

I propose we take baby steps and ease our way back to our rightful position and stand firm on our mission statement and fulfill our roles as professional social workers. Will you join me?



Thoughts for the Fall

Steve Wanczyk-Karp, LMSW
*Executive Director
Connecticut Chapter*



The air is getting cooler, the leaves are changing, and the mums and pumpkins are decorating homes and public spaces. I love the change of seasons and the feeling of new opportunities about to abound. Amongst these changes this year we add some potentially historic undertakings in the practice environment, which are the topics of this column.

Social Work Compact: As many of you know, the social work community is moving toward development of a practice compact that will allow licensees to practice in multiple states through a single compact license. The work has been underwritten by the Department of Defense in order to give social work spouses of military personnel and other social workers mobility of practice. The Social Work Compact is moving forward, having completed the public comment period where over 3,000 comments were offered on the initial draft language. The work now continues by a technical writing workgroup that will consider the comments and based on them will almost certainly redraft some of the language. If the revisions are extensive, the new draft will go to another public comment period. Once the final language is agreed upon the compact will have to be adopted by at least 7 state legislatures for

it to begin. At this time there are some critical decisions that must be made, such as whether passage of a nationally recognized exam is required, if one must join the Compact from the state they reside in or the state they primarily practice in (when different) and if a background check will be required. While we all look forward to having a compact in place for states to approve, the importance of getting it right is far more critical than completing the work in time for states legislatures to consider it in 2023. If the compact is ready to be brought forward by January and NASW is in support of final language, NASW/CT is prepared to introduce it into the 2023 legislative session.

ASWB Examination Passage Rates: In late summer the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) made public the examination passage rates based on race, age, and gender. The data has released a firestorm of criticism and raises significant questions as to the fairness of the exams. Findings include that over half of Black social workers failed the exam on the first try, Latinx social workers had a higher passage rate than Blacks social workers but a lower passage rate than White social workers. Social workers from diverse cultures whose first language is not English also have lower passage rates. Women did better than men and for every 10

Thoughts, continued

years of age the passage rate declined (though in CT the 40-49 age group did worse than the 50 + age group). To read the report by ASWB on the data go to <https://www.aswb.org/exam/contributing-to-the-conversation/>

For years there have been multiple voices questioning ASWB on the test results and calling for release of passage rates. At first ASWB denied having such data and later, they responded that the exams have been well vetted and reflect no biases. I, like so many others, suspected that ASWB was hiding the exam passage data. If there were no issues with the exams passage rates, why didn't ASWB release the test results before now? That would have quelled the criticism that ASWB has faced for quite some time.

The ASWB data release has complicated the work on the Social Work Compact where a test is in the initial draft language. It has also led DPH to consider removal of the Master examination for acquiring the LMSW (**not removal of the license**). Such a step would require the CT Legislature to amend the LMSW statute. Given the imbalance in the Master examination passage rates, the CT Chapter Board of Directors will support DPH if legislative language is introduced to eliminate the ASWB Master exam until a more equitable exam is developed. We expect this will be for an interim period until ASWB successfully addresses these issues.

2022 Elections: Throughout the nation, this is an election where democracy, abortion rights and civil discourse is truly on the ballot. There are candidates who believe that state legislatures should determine who won the

election even when vote results showed otherwise. Other candidates disagree, supporting acceptance of election results. Elections have ramifications and the 2022 midterm elections are especially consequential. Our democracy is on the nation's ballots.

NASW's Political Action for Candidate Election (PACE) has been busy at work, both at the national and state level, reviewing incumbents voting records and non-incumbents positions on issues that matter to social workers. Please give any time you can, an hour, two hours, three hours of volunteer time to a PACE endorsed candidate (remember to tell the campaign you are a social worker). The list of endorsed candidates is in this newsletter or contact the office to find a candidate near you. I know you are incredibly busy in these times. Every moment you can give goes a long way for NASW when we are at the Capitol seeking the support of our elected officials. I thank you for any time you can give. **BE THE POWER OF SOCIAL WORK!**

There is a ballot question asking if CT should allow early voting? We are one of only four states that have no early voting procedures. NASW/CT supports early voting, we worked to get it on the ballot and I ask for your YES vote.

I urge all of you to vote, to ask colleagues and family members to vote, and have voter information available if clients ask.

Thank you for being a member of NASW, without which I would not be writing to you. Together we keep moving forward!

Medicaid Approves LMSWs as Providers in Private Practice

The Department of Social Services, Medicaid (HUSKY) Program is allowing LMSWs provider status in existing private practices. This newly issued regulation https://www.ctdssmap.com/CTPortal/Information/Get-Download-File?Filename=pb22_67.pdf&URI=Bulletins/pb22_67.pdf took effect on October 1, 2022. NASW/CT proposed this change as part of the Chapter's 2022 recommendations to the CT Legislature regarding children's mental health. LMSW provider status was the number one recommendation on children's mental health of the Senate Republican Caucus.

The regulations require the LMSW to be under at least weekly supervision by a licensed clinician as defined in the LMSW statute. Reimbursement will be paid at the approved rate of the supervising clinician.

Associate licensed marital & family therapists and associate licensed professional counselors also are covered in the regulations.

Support the Early Voting Ballot Question

In the 2022 elections Connecticut voters will be asked to approve early voting through a ballot question. Connecticut's constitution requires voting to take place only on Election Day. Early voting requires passage of a ballot question directing the CT Legislature to pass a law governing early voting. The first attempt to pass early voting was defeated in 2014 by about 491,000 who voted "NO" to compared to 453,00 who voted "yes". Connecticut is one of only four states that does not have some form of early voting.

The ballot question will read "Shall the Constitution of the State be amended to permit the General Assembly to provide for early voting?" The language used in 2014 was not as clear and many voters found it too confusing to understand the purpose. Many advocates believe that, and a lack of public education on the question led to its failure. In addition, Connecticut voters had no experience with

early voting in 2014, a fact that has changed due to an easing of voting rules during the pandemic.

NASW/CT supported the legislation that called for the ballot initiative. We believe that voting should be made more accessible to all registered voters. By restricting voting to the hours of 6 AM – 8 PM solely on Election Day leaves many voters unable to get to the polls for a whole list of reasons. The Chapter encourages our members to vote YES and to encourage colleagues, family members, friends and clients to support their right to vote early.

The Democratic Party candidate for Secretary of State, Stephanie Thomas supports the early voting ballot question. The Republican candidate for Secretary of State, Dominic Rapini opposes the early voting ballot question.

Introducing Our New Continuing Education Manager



I am excited to introduce myself as the newest NASW/CT Manager of Professional Development. It's been just about a month and I am settling in to the new role and truly enjoying it. I'd like to thank Pat for all the incredible work she has done over the past 16 years. I

look forward to continuing to provide quality professional development and networking opportunities for our members. My past professional experience includes 17 years working in continuing education, conference planning and membership services. I've worked with nonprofit organizations and most recently spent the last 8 years working for the CT State Dental Association.

My background is diverse as I started my career as a respiratory therapist. I received my degree from the University of Hartford and specialized in education and pediatrics. I maintain my CT licensure but found early in my career that I was driven by creating connections with other healthcare providers and professional development. When the opportunity to work for the American Lung Association came about, I found my calling. I was able to use my background to represent my profession. I held the role of Chapter Administrator for the CT Thoracic Society, was editor of two health newsletters and staffed two Department of Public Health Coalitions: Influenza and Pneumonia and Tuberculosis. I handled all continuing education and conferences for these groups. Further work experience includes the American Cancer Society and the Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Connecticut. While at UConn I planned their National Cancer

Survivors Day for 3 years. This event had an attendance of over 350 patients and caregivers each year. I also worked on support groups for patients and caregivers as well as skills training for healthcare professionals and educational programming for school-based settings.

During my time at the Connecticut State Dental Association I worked on all things membership. I was the liaison to the UConn School of Dental Medicine, staffed the membership council and also the peer review and ethics committees. I spent much of my time working on membership recruitment and retention amongst students and newer members. I worked with our National office to provide programming to students and worked to recruit student members into the full membership status upon graduation. I provided educational programming both in person and then quickly moved to webinar format during the pandemic.

In my free time, I am the mom (and chauffeur) to a 10 year old boy. When not working I can be found on the sidelines cheering on his ice hockey team or at home playing in the yard with my two border collies. I feel incredibly lucky to be a part of such a devoted profession. I am looking forward to meeting our members and working with you. I was looking for a quote that would express my excitement for this new opportunity and found this, "Far and away the best prize that life has to offer is the chance to work hard at work worth doing." - Theodore Roosevelt

In closing I am truly looking forward to this new opportunity. Please feel free to reach out to me at any time. I can be reached by e-mail at pnixon.naswct@socialworkers.org or on my cell phone 860-371-8183.

All my best,

Pamela Nixon
Manager, Professional Development

Save the Date for the Virtual Annual Awards event November 15th from 6-7 pm. Details on Page 17.

Take the LMSW Exam in the Last Semester of MSW Program

NASW/CT is pleased to announce that we have made arrangements with DPH and ASWB to allow MSW students to sit for the Master Exam (LMSW) in the last semester of the MSW program. This will expedite licensure for new MSW graduates who pass the Master exam prior to completion of the MSW degree. The following directions are from the DPH website:

A student in their last semester of an MSW degree program may apply to sit for the master's level examination prior to graduation. To be approved, the student must be an applicant for a Connecticut master's level social worker license by submitting the required application online, pay the \$220 application fee and indicate that they are in their last semester of the MSW program. There is a question on the application that the applicant will answer indicating that the applicant is a student.

When an application is received, DPH will review it and notify ASWB that the applicant is eligible for examination. The applicant will receive an email from DPH with further instructions on how and when to register for the examination. Applicants should not attempt to register for the examination until receiving authorization from DPH.

Applications are only accepted online. Please select this [link](#) to apply online. After you create your account and verify your email address, please select 'Initial Application' under 'More Online Services', expand the 'Public Health Practitioners' grouping and then select 'Start' next to the 'MASTER'S LEVEL SOCIAL WORKER' license type.

Please note that a MSW license will not be issued until an applicant passes the examination and a transcript indicating that a degree was awarded by the MSW program is on file at DPH.

Absentee Ballots Available to All Voters



Connecticut law allows you to receive an absentee ballot if you cannot appear at your assigned polling place on Election Day because of active service in the military, absence from the town in which you are eligible to vote, **sickness**, religious tenets that forbid secular activity on the day of the election, duties as an election official at a polling place other than your own during all of the hours of voting, or physical disability. To receive your absentee ballot, please complete, sign, and submit an application online at: <https://oabr-sots.ct.gov/OABR/absenteeBallotReqPortalHome.do> or contact your municipal town clerk to have an absentee ballot mailed to you.

CT has very restrictive voting rules. Prior to Covid, absentee ballots were limited to the categories listed above. However, due to the pandemic, anyone who does not feel safe going to a polling place can use an absentee ballot by checking the box "illness". This applies to the 2022 elections.

PACE Endorsed Candidates

CT PACE: *The Political Action Committee of the National Association of Social Workers, CT Chapter*
2139 Silas Deane Hwy., Suite 205, Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Congressional Endorsements by National PACE

Senator Richard Blumenthal ~ Congressman Joseph Courtney ~ Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro
Congresswoman Jahana Hayes ~ Congressman John Larson

State Senate Endorsements by CT PACE

Saud Anwar	Paul Honig	Cathy Osten
Christine Cohen	Julie Kushner	Masudur Rahman, MD
Bob Duff	Matthew Lesser	Christopher Robert Robertson
Herron Keyon Gaston	Martin Looney	Derek Slap
Tim Gavin	Rick Lopes	Lisa Thomas
Jan Hochadel	Cecilia Maher	Gary Winfield

State House Endorsements by CT PACE

Kimbery L Becker	Mary Fortier	Susan Johnson	Andrew Rasmussen-Tuller
Amy Morrin Bello	Jaime S. Foster	Sarah Keitt	Kara E Rochelle
Aimee Berger-Girvalo	Sujata Gadkar-Wilcox	Rachel Khanna	Kevin Ryan
Kevin Brown	Jane Garibay	Jennifer Leeper	Hilda Santiago
Aundre' Bumgardner	Nick Gauthier	Jeffrey Litke	Farley Santos
Robin Comey	Jillian Gilchrest	Denise McNair	Mike Smith
Michelle Cook	Ashley Gillece	Nick Menapace	Jonathan Steinberg
Gregg Dafoe	Jeffrey Ginsburg	Stephen Meskers	Kenneth James Trice
Lucy S Dathan	Bob Godfrey	David Michel	Gary Turco
Eleni Kavros Degraw	Kenneth Gucker	Mary Mushinsky	Cristin McCarthy Vahey
Michael V. Demicco	Mary Ann M Hansen	Ronald Napoli Jr.	Edwin Vargas
Matthew Despard	Phoebe Holmes	Anthony Nolan	Toni Walker
Jason Doucette	Maria Horn	Christine Palm	Mary Welander
Joshua Elliott	Anne Hughes	Corey P. Paris	Philip Young
Erica Evans	Rebecca Hyland	John-Michael Parker	
Kate Farrar	Dominique E. Johnson	Maira Rader	

Can I See Out of State Clients? A Definite Maybe!

One of the most frequent questions the Chapter receives are inquiries as to whether one can see out of state clients through telehealth. The answer is – it depends on the state the client resides in.

Every state has its own practice rules. During the height of the pandemic, many states, under emergency orders, opened practice to licensed social workers who were not licensed in their state. As Covid has diminished to a degree, many of those states have ended those emergency orders, returning to pre-pandemic practice restrictions.

Typically, states will require the social worker to be licensed in their state in order to perform telehealth with resident(s) of their state. Before accepting an out of state client, one must check with the state's Social Work Regulatory Board (some states boards are multi-disciplinary) as to the rules. You can also contact the state NASW Chapter as most Chapters will have the information too.

We have heard from members who have clients just across the CT border where the client crosses

into CT to be seen. This is fine, even if the client has entered CT and then utilizes telehealth.

A twist on this question is whether a CT licensed social worker can move to another state and continue to treat CT clients through telehealth. CT allows such practice if the CT license is in good standing. However, one still needs to check with the state you moved into to see if the state will allow you to practice telehealth within that state strictly seeing CT clients.

An excellent source of information is the Center for Connected Health Policy. The Center has just released their bi-annual report on telehealth in all 50 states. The Center's website is www.cchpca.org where you can sign up for to receive their mailings and the most recent report on states telehealth policies can be found at <https://www.cchpca.org/resources/state-telehealth-laws-and-reimbursement-policies-report-fall-2022/>

Apply for Student Debt Cancellation Today!

Good news: The online application for the Biden Administration's student debt cancellation is now officially open!

And the application is fast and easy—you don't need to submit any documents or even log-in to your StudentAid.gov account. It will probably take you 5 minutes or less to apply. You can apply now on your cell phone or on a computer. The application is available in both English and Spanish.

That means you can apply today to have [\\$10,000 to \\$20,000 in eligible federal student loan debt canceled](#). Apply now at studentaid.gov/debtrelief/apply.

The above information came from the National Consumer Law Center that is an excellent resource on student loans relief <https://www.studentloanborrowerassistance.org/>



EARLY VOTING

On Election Day, November 8, 2022 in Connecticut, there is a question (Question 1) on the ballot that reads: "Shall the Constitution of the State be amended to permit the General Assembly to provide for early voting?"

With early voting, Connecticut voters would have the option to vote in-person at designated locations on specified days in advance of Election Day.

Connecticut is one of only four states with no in-person early voting

<https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/early-voting-in-state-elections.aspx>

On Tuesday, Nov. 8, Vote YES on Question 1

Many voters work 2 or 3 jobs just to keep their families afloat and need more options than just a single day to get time off for voting

Younger voters who are eager to participate may find it hard to miss valuable time in the classroom or at their new job

Learn more at earlyvotingct.org

[Visit www.earlyvotingct.org for more information](http://www.earlyvotingct.org)

Latino/a Social Workers Network 2022-2023 Mentoring Program

SOCIAL

CULTURAL

EDUCATIONAL

PROFESSIONAL



FAMILISIMO.

PERSONALISMO.

CONFIANZA.

COLECTIVISMO.

Free Mentoring for:
Latino/a BSW and MSW Students

**A unique opportunity to be mentored
by Latino/a senior professional social workers who take the
time out of their busy lives to give back to their community!**

Scholarships Available to Eligible Students!

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR

TO APPLY TO BECOME A MENTEE

Contact us at LSWCTMentoring@gmail.com

Latino/a Social Workers Network 2022-2023 Mentoring Program Q & A

What is the Latino/a Social Workers Network Mentoring Program?

The main purpose of the mentoring program is to provide Latino/a social work students with the unique and empowering opportunity to be mentored by senior professional social workers. This culturally attuned program focuses on developing and strengthening relationships between experienced social workers (mentors) and Latino/a social work students (mentees). The Latino/a cultural values of familismo, personalismo, confianza, and colectivismo play a vital role in building relationships between mentors and mentees. **The goal of the program is to help Latino/a social work students more competently and effectively navigate the challenges of practicing in a variety of professional settings.**

What is the format or structure of the Mentoring Program?

The 2023 Mentoring Program is a community mentoring model. The community mentoring portion of the program will consist of four (January-April) virtual, interactive, and discussion-based meetings. These four community meetings will focus on topics such as program orientation, social work professionalism, negotiation skills, cultural development, and program evaluation/celebration. There will also be an opportunity to meet in person as a community at an outdoor event in April). One-on-one relationships between mentors and mentees can be established during the program. Mentors and mentees will then communicate outside of community meetings and interact

with each other via phone, online, and/or in-person to develop one-on-one mentoring relationships. The Mentoring Program liaisons will periodically check in with mentors and mentees on their relationship and help resolve any issues or problems that may arise.

Who can participate in the Mentoring Program?

This program is open to all Latino/a BSW and MSW students who are or will become NASW members (may join upon starting the program). Potential mentors should identify as Latino/a, possess MSW degrees, be an NASW members, and have at least five years of post-MSW professional experience. For information on NASW membership, please go to www.socialworkers.org/Join.

What is the time commitment needed to participate in the Mentoring Program?

With the exception of the meeting in April, which will be held at a TBD location, all 2023 Mentoring Program community meetings are held via Google Meets on the following Fridays, 6-8 pm: Jan. 27, Feb. 24, Mar. 24, and Apr. 28. Mentors and mentees are expected to attend all four of these meetings. Please consider your availability on these dates/times before applying for the program.

If you're interested in applying as a mentor or mentee or would like more information, please contact the Network Chair, (Reina) Lleidy De Leon at LSWCTMentoring@gmail.com.

Upcoming Training Webinars in November

Improving Social Skills in Children and Youth

Tuesday, November 1, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

This is a 3-hour online continuing education (CE) course that provides healthcare professionals with practical tools to guide children in gaining social competence. Highlighting the benefits and advantages to having well-developed social skills and demonstrating the difficulties and challenges that arise from a lack of these crucial skills, this course will provide practical tools that teachers and therapists can employ to guide children to overcome their difficulties in the social realm and gain social competence. **3 CECs.**

[Click here for more information or to register](#)

Introduction to Tapping: A Self-Regulation, Stress Anxiety, And Trauma Relief Method

Wednesday, November 9, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Now, more than ever, skill development programs that help with anxiety, impulsivity, and focus are essential tools to create lasting positive change desperately needed. In this practical and hands-on program, you learn self-regulation Emotional Freedom Technique (EFT), or Tapping, neuroscience, and evidence-based self-regulating stress, anxiety, and trauma relief method. It's called Tapping because you Tap with your own fingertips on Acupuncture Meridian Points on your face and body. Clinical trials have shown that EFT lowers the stress response and reduces the emotional impact of past traumatic memories while positively influencing gene expression. **3 CECs**

[Click here for more information or to register](#)

Navigating Grief During the Holidays: Planning Ahead to Manage Difficult Times

Thursday, November 10, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Under normal circumstance, the holiday season can be a stressful time. When grieving the death of a loved one, holidays may be especially challenging. Unexpected & overwhelming emotions may suddenly arise. However, these anticipated moments can be managed. This workshop offers practical skills and strategies to provide comfort, support & techniques to both manage the grief & practice self-care while navigating the holiday season. **2 CECs**

[Click here for more information or to register](#)

Professional Social Work Ethical Boundaries and Risk Management Strategies Part I & II

This training has been changed from 2 November trainings to December 9th & February 24th; both days are not required to qualify for CECs and can be taken independently

These workshop discussions will focus on boundary issues, dual relationships in social work practice (including academia), challenges in electronic technology, and risk management strategies. Specific focus will be placed on the patterns of boundary issues, the progression of boundary violations, the consequences for clients when boundary violations occur, and risk management strategies to prevent boundary violations, particularly for those who live and work in rural communities. Specific standards from the NASW Code of Ethics will be identified and discussed. Through small group discussion and activities, participants will have the opportunity to unravel the nuances associated with boundary violations. Multiple examples of dilemmas regarding boundary issues and video vignettes will be provided. **5 CECs**

Click for more information or to register for [December 9th](#) or for [February 24th](#)

Meet Our Interns

Hello! My name is Michele Brabant. I'm a 1999 graduate of the University of Connecticut where I earned my BA in Psychology. Though the plan was to return to school shortly after graduating, life circumstances made this challenging and the dream of pursuing my master's faded more with each passing year. When my son graduated high school and left home for college in August 2020, compounded with the certain realities that the COVID-19 pandemic unsympathetically displayed, I decided it was time for me to take the steps to make this dream come true. I am now in my second year of the three-year MSW program with Southern Connecticut State University.

In addition to school, I continue to work as a Case Manager with the State of Connecticut's Department of Developmental Services where I have been employed for almost 16 years. My experience of working within a state department and as an active delegate for SEIU 1199 NE increased my interest in addressing the injustices that plague our communities.

When it came time to explore field placement opportunities, I expressed interest in interning with a political campaign. I was intrigued when

Diane Michaelsen, the then Director of SCSU's Field Education and MSW Admissions office, proposed interviewing with NASW/CT. After doing more research and interviewing with Steve Wanczyk-Karp, Executive Director, I knew that this was where I wanted to be. Meeting and working with legislative officials who are up for re-election while learning more about the significant role that the NASW has in presenting needed bills that are designed to better lives of CT citizens, is an experience for which I am truly grateful. I welcome the growth that this internship provides and hope to continue this path that facilitates positive change for many.



When I'm not working or completing course assignments, I can be found spending time with my boyfriend and our 3 adult children, newborn granddaughter, and listening to podcasts while hiking with my beloved dog, Ella.



Hello NASW members. My name is Matt Dionne, and I am currently in my senior year at the University of Connecticut School of Social Work. In the spring, I will join my daughter this graduation season as she graduates high school and I graduate from UConn with an MSW degree in Community Organizing. I also earned my BSW from Central Connecticut State University and an Associate degree in accounting and business management from Manchester Community College. During my studies, I have had the privilege of interning for numerous organizations working with underserved populations including senior citizens, homelessness, recovery, and mental health.

I am excited to complete my senior internship at NASW/CT. I look forward to working in electoral campaigns and joining various NASW committees. Most of all, I'm incredibly eager to put into practice what I've learned over the years.

Call for Proposals 2023

NASW/CT 36th Annual Statewide Conference

June 9, 2023
Wyndham Southbury

Call For Proposals

NASW/CT is now accepting papers for its 36th Annual Statewide Conference to be held on June 9, 2023 at the Wyndham Southbury Hotel in Southbury, CT.

In this unique profession of ours, we strive to help people in all stages and walks of life. The professional social worker needs to acquire knowledge in numerous arenas including prevention, treatment, direct service, private practice, social policy, cultural competency, administration, community organization, and legislation.

The conference committee is seeking proposals that explore topics in varying fields of social work practice and at all levels (micro, mezzo, or macro).

The workshop presentations should appeal to experienced social workers and others in allied fields.

Guidelines for Proposals

The committee recommends that one of the presenters has a BSW or MSW degree or be a social work student but this is not required for a proposal to be accepted.

To make the presentation informative and rewarding for the Conference audience, the committee suggests that presenters plan to address their remarks to professionals with **intermediate** or **advanced** levels of experience and knowledge. Social Workers appreciate specific "how to" comments and relevant examples. Please do not plan to read a power point or only lecture as our participants prefer interactive programs.

Submit a copy of the Proposal which includes a description of your professional experience, the Abstract, and the Brief Summary Abstract by **December 20, 2023**. We request that you include your objectives in the Abstract as well as a few sentences regarding how the presentation incorporates social work values.

NOTE: No Personal Identification should appear in the Abstract to provide anonymity in the decision making process.

The Proposal form can be obtained from the NASW office or the form can be down loaded from the website by clicking [HERE](#).

Presenters attend the Annual Conference at no charge but they are asked to pay \$40 if they are joining us for lunch.

No additional presenters may be added after the Proposal is accepted. We ask that you limit your presenters to 5 should you be planning a panel.

Conference Committee decisions and notifications will be sent mid-January 2023.

***Send Proposals to NASW/CT Annual Conference Committee
2139 Silas Deane Highway, Suite 205, Rocky Hill, CT 06067***

Or Email to pnixon.naswct@socialworkers.org

Any questions, please call Pamela Nixon at 860-371-8183

Upcoming Events

Join us for our
virtual Annual Awards event
on November 15th from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

as we honor amazing and dedicated social workers across the state who have embodied excellence for their clients, constituents and communities. All are welcomed and encouraged to attend and there is no cost. Award winners will be announced shortly, so keep an eye on your inbox!

[Click here to register.](#)



NASW/CT 36th Annual Statewide Conference

will be held on

June 9, 2023

at the

Wyndham Southbury

Details coming soon!

Upcoming SWES Exam Prep Courses Now Online Via Zoom!

Due to circumstances around COVID-19, and the closure of venues, SWES has migrated its upcoming exam prep classes to Zoom! Please see the attached flyer for details. Register in advance to receive your Comprehensive Study Guide, included with registration, by mail. www.swes.net or by calling 800-933-8802.



2022 LICENSE EXAM PREP COURSE SCHEDULE

ALL COURSES ONLINE VIA ZOOM!

- February 5-6 — Two-day Course
- March 19 — One-day Intensive
- April 30-May 1 — Two-day Course
- June 4-5 — Two-day Course
- August 11-12 — Weekday Two-day course
- October 15 — One-day Intensive
- November 12-13 — Two-day Course

Courses taught synchronously in **interactive classroom format with live instructors.**

Prepares you for the ASWB Licensure Exam in **ALL states.**

SWES Comprehensive Study Guide included in registration.

Includes 1600 practice questions and reviews of major content areas, and is designed for ASWB Masters and Clinical Level Exams.

Courses have been approved for CEC Hours (9/two-day, 5/one-day) by the NASW/CT and meet the continuing education criteria for Connecticut Social Work Licensure renewal.



All courses are taught in connection with —

- Sacred Heart University, School of Social Work
- Quinnipiac University, Social Work Department
- Springfield College, School of Social Work
- Connecticut Womens Consortium
- NASW Vermont
- NASW New Hampshire
- NASW Maine

REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.SWES.NET OR CALL 800.933.8802

“valuable and meaningful test-taking preparation”

“a tremendous help”

“lessened my anxiety and bolstered my confidence”

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Includes 3-volume Comprehensive Study Guide
\$350 two-day or **\$210** one-day + S&H

■ ONLINE PRACTICE EXAMS

90-day subscription includes two 170-question, timed practice exams **\$85**

■ 3-VOLUME COMPREHENSIVE STUDY GUIDE

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“The zoom format was great. Comfort of your own home and helpful...”

“Very beneficial and interactive...”

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 10 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/>

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/>

Advertising Your Classified Ad on the Web

NASW/CT ACCEPTS EMPLOYMENT AND CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING ON OUR WEB PAGE

IT'S OUR 30 – 30 - 30 PROGRAM

30 WORDS FOR 30 DAYS AT \$30.00

Web Advertising Is EFFECTIVE AND INEXPENSIVE! We'll post your ad of up to 30 words for 30 days for only \$30.00. For larger ads, there is a range. Ads 31 to 50 words are \$50.00, 51 to 75 words are \$75.00 and so on, but that's not necessary; there is a field to link to an online employment listing, whether on your website, or elsewhere. Submit your ad with payment to NASW/CT. For more information or to discuss this service contact us at 860/257-8066. To submit an ad go to <http://naswct.org/place-classified-ad/>

Value added feature for advertisers. We will forward your ad to our members who have signed up for our Job Seekers list at no additional cost to you.

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 800-742-4089*
*Members can make changes online www.socialworkers.org

NASW Assurance Services 855-385-2160

LCSW Exam Application—Department of Health 800-509-7603

Ethical Questions 860-257-8066 x202
Stephen Wanczyk-Karp, NASW/CT Executive Director 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 860-371-8183
Pamela Nixon, Manager of Continuing Education, pnixon.naswct@socialworkers.org

Bookkeeping 860-257-8066 x203
Nicole LePore, NASW/CT Bookkeeper naswbookkeeper.naswct@socialworkers.org

Website, Newsletter, Advertising & Labels 860-257-8066
Meghan Maxwell, NASW/CT Office Administrator mmaxwell.naswct@socialworkers.org