

JUNE 2011

Dear NASW WI members:

As the weather heats up so does the political climate in Madison! I am about to start a two week vacation and I wanted to give you an update on what is happening at your NASW chapter.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE VENDORSHIP UPDATE

Despite the fact that direct reimbursement for LCSW's for Medical Assistance clients started January 1st, the Department of Health Services has still not eliminated the rule that requires a physician referral for services. At a recent state meeting on prior authorization, attended by representative of NASW WI's Professional Standards & Regulation Committee, this issue was raised. DHS staff said the change would happen soon. NASW WI has asked a State Senate office to intercede on this issue.

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION

For a number of years NASW WI has been pressing the Department of Health Services to either eliminate or drastically reduce the paperwork and processing for prior authorization for Medical Assistance clients. Although a few positive changes have occurred, there are still many problems with this procedure. In May as mentioned above, members of NASW WI Professional Standards & Regulation committee attended a meeting in Madison at the Department of Health Services to press for either the elimination or more changes to the prior authorization process. DHS is reviewing all the comments and suggestions that were made at the May meeting.

REIMBURSEMENT FOR CERTIFIED ADVANCED PRACTICE SOCIAL WORKERS STILL NOT IMPLEMENTED BY DHS

Despite being told numerous times that the Department of Health Services expected to implement Medical Assistance reimbursement for Certified Advanced Practice Social Workers at outpatient clients in early 2011, this change has still not taken place. We understand that one staff person at DHS has held up this change and is reviewing it. NASW WI has urged DHS for years to implement this reimbursement procedure as a way to increase access to services and provide employment opportunities for recent MSW graduates. We will closely monitor this situation.

2011 ANNUAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION TO START BY JUNE 30

Registration for NASW WI's 2011 annual conference will start by the end of June. NASW WI's 2011 annual conference will take place on September 12-14 at the Sheraton Madison Hotel, 706 John Nolen Drive, Madison. Discounts on annual conference registration fees are available to NASW WI members, during the "early bird" registration period and for those able to help with registration and other conference duties. Once registration starts you will be able to register online at <http://www.naswwi.org>. For more information call the NASW WI office toll free at (866) 462-7994 or (608) 257-6334.

2011 ANNUAL CONFERENCE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS CONFIRMED

Jeane Anastas, the national NASW President-elect and Leslie Ann Howard, the Executive Director of United Way of Dane County, have been confirmed as the 2011 NASW WI annual conference keynote speakers. NASW WI's 2011 annual conference will take place on September 12-14, 2011 at the Sheraton Madison Hotel, 706 John Nolen Drive, Madison. Registration for NASW WI's 2011 annual conference will begin in July. For more information about our keynote speakers check the NASW WI website at <http://www.naswwi.org>.

2011 ANNUAL CONFERENCE TOWN HALL MEETING TO FOCUS ON IMMIGRATION AND SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE

What is considered ethical social work practice with undocumented immigrants in Wisconsin? What is the focus of the immigration rights movement in Wisconsin today? How is immigration affecting communities throughout Wisconsin? These are some questions that will be addressed at NASW WI's 2011 "Town Hall Meeting", which will take place at the 2011 Annual Conference on Tuesday September 13, 2011 at the Sheraton Madison Hotel.

NASW WI ACCEPTING EXHIBITERS AND ADVERTISERS FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

We are now accepting exhibitors and advertisers for our 2011 annual conference. If you or your company are interested in exhibiting at the annual conference or placing an ad in our annual conference brochure (mailed to over 5,000 social workers), please contact Anne Courtney at the NASW WI office toll free at (866) 462-7994 or (608) 257-6334. You can also email Anne at naswiwi@tds.net.

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE IN NASW WI'S 2011 ELECTIONS

The deadline to vote in NASW WI's 2011 elections for the board of directors and nomination representatives is June 6th. All members were emailed and sent a post card with instructions on the on-line voting. If you have misplaced this information, please contact Anne on June 6th at naswwi@tds.net or (866) 462-7994 or (608) 257-6334.

SOCIAL WORKERS SECTION SUPPORTS COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

At this meeting on June 1st, the Social Workers Section passed a resolution strongly supporting collective bargaining as a social work intervention tool to protect and support consumers and improve working conditions for social workers serving these consumers. I spoke on behalf of the resolution at the meeting citing the protection that a union provides to social workers who speak out on client abuses or bad working conditions at their place of work. Joe Purcell, President of the union for Dane County social workers also spoke. A copy of the resolution is attached. I would encourage you to send a copy of the resolution to your State Senator and Representative and urge them to vote against any attempts to eliminate collective bargaining in Wisconsin. Because of the court battle on previous passage of this bill, it is likely that the State Senate and Assembly will vote on this proposal again in June as part of the state budget vote.

WISCONSIN VALUES BUDGET

NASW WI has been participating in a coalition that has developed a Wisconsin Values Budget as an alternative to Governor Walker's budget. This budget is balanced without the drastic cuts in Medicaid, human services and education proposed by Governor Walker. This budget is balanced by targeted tax increases for corporations and the wealthiest Wisconsinites, by the elimination of the Governor's tax breaks, improved collection of tax owed to the state and increased revenue from the economic rebound. Please contact your State Senator and Representative and ask them to vote no on Governor Walker's budget and yes on the provisions of the Wisconsin Values Budget, which is attached.

CONCEAL CARRY LEGISLATION

Conceal carry legislation, AB 126, SB 90 and 93 is moving through the Wisconsin Legislature. Some form of conceal carry legislation will likely pass in June. NASW WI has strongly opposed this legislation but recognizing it will pass, has requested major changes to the bill, including exemptions for public and private human services and mental health agencies. A copy of our testimony is attached. Please contact your State Senator and Representative and ask them to either vote no on conceal carry legislation and/or to vote yes on amendments recommended by NASW WI.

RECALL ELECTIONS

Wisconsin Social Workers PAC (WSWPAC), the political arm of NASW WI has endorsed the following individuals in the recall elections: Nancy Nusbaum, who is running against State Senator Robert Cowles

in the 2nd Senate District, State Representative Sandy Pasch who is running against State Senator Alberta Darling in the 8th Senate District; Shelly Moore who is running against Shelia Harsdorf in the 10th Senate District; State Representative Fred Clark, who is running against State Senator Luther Olsen, Jessica King, who is running against State Senator Randy Hopper and State Representative Jennifer Shilling, who is running against State Senator Dan Kapanke. WSWPAC is seeking contributions from NASW WI members that it can use to support these six campaigns. If you contribute to WSWPAC for the recall elections, make the check out to Wisconsin Social Workers PAC and mail to the NASW WI Chapter office, 16 N. Carroll Street, Suite 220, Madison, WI 53703

NASW WI CANVASS FOR SANDY PASCH

NASW WI is organizing a canvass for State Representative Sandy Pasch who is running against State Senator Alberta Darling in the recall elections. This canvass will take place on Saturday June 25th at 10:00 A.M. at the Pasch for Senate campaign office, 6807 N. Green Bay Avenue, Glendale. If you would like to participate in this canvass please email me at marcherstand@tds.net.

NASW WI CANVASS FOR JESSICA KING

WSWPAC member Wendy Volz-Daniels is organizing a canvass for Jessica King, who is running against Randy Hopper in the recall elections. The canvass will take place the weekend of June 11th and 12th, at both the Fond du Lac and Oshkosh offices. Please email Wendy Volz Daniels at wvolzdan@gmail.com if you are able to help in this canvass.

BSW/MSW EXAM PREPARATION WORKSHOPS

NASW WI will hold its next BSW and MSW exam preparation workshops on Friday July 8th at Stowell Associates/Select Staff, 4485 N. Oakland Avenue, Shorewood. The BSW exam preparation workshop will take place from 9:00 A.M.-12:00 noon and the MSW exam preparation workshop will take place from 12:30 P.M.-4:30 P.M. To register go to the NASW WI website at <http://www.naswwi.org>.

NASW WI BOARD OF DIRECTORS RETREAT

At the end of July NASW WI's Board of Directors will meet for a retreat to determine the Wisconsin Chapters' goals for the next two years. As a member of NASW WI we would welcome your feedback on priorities and goals for NASW WI. Please email your feedback to me at marcherstand@tds.net.

NASW WI JOB LISTING SERVICE

NASW WI has a job list service for members only. In this service we forward jobs we receive to members on the job list serve. If you would like to add your name to this job list serve, please email Sara Pennebecker at naswwiintern@tds.net

HOW TO UPDATE YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION IN THE NASW DATABASE

In order to receive this e-newsletter and other critical emails from the Wisconsin Chapter of NASW, your correct email must be in the national NASW data base. To update your email or other information on the national NASW data base, please following the directions listed below:

Go to www.socialworkers.org/membercenter
Enter your NASW username and password
Go to "Modify/Change Your Profile"
Click on "Your Personal Information" then "Edit"
Update your information and then click "Submit"

Or call Customer Service at (800) 742-4089. Have your member number available when you call.

You can also use this system to change other personal information such as name or street address.

NASW WI COMPILES LIST OF AGENCIES THAT HIRE CAPSW'S SEEKING 3,000 HOURS OF SUPERVISED CLINICAL PRACTICE

In response to a suggestion from the Wisconsin Social Work Business Summit, NASW WI has compiled a list of agencies in Wisconsin that hire CAPSW's who are seeking 3,000 hours of paid supervised clinical practice. If you are an NASW WI member and would like a copy of this list, please contact the chapter office toll-free at (866) 462-7994 or (608) 257-6334 or email naswwi@tds.net.

MENTOR CONTACT PROGRAM

Are you a new social work professional seeking advice, support and/or information from an experienced social worker in your field? Are you a social work student who would like to learn more about an area of social work? Are you a social worker who is switching your area of practice and need some pointers? If so, NASW WI's mentor contact program can help you! Contact the NASW WI office by phone at (866) 462-7994 or (608) 257-6334 or naswwi@tds.net and we will send you a list of NASW WI members who have agreed to serve as mentor contacts. Once you receive the list you can contact the individual who you would like to serve as your mentor

SIGN UP TO BE AN NASW WI MENTOR!

Are you an experienced social work professional with expertise that you are willing to share with a social work student, new social work professional or social work colleague?

NASW WI has a mentoring contact program. This program is designed to provide a mentoring contact for social work students, new social work professionals, social workers moving to Wisconsin, social workers switching their area of practice and other social workers with questions in an area of expertise. Mentors are NASW WI members with expertise who are willing to be contacted via email or phone from a mentor list compiled by the NASW WI Chapter.

If you are willing to serve as a mentor contact please email me your contact information and area of expertise at marcherstand@tds.net. Please feel free to call me for more information

GETTING INVOLVED, STAYING INFORMED!

To help promote any of the issues listed in this Letter to Members, please call or email me or go to our website and join one of our committees. If you want more information on any of these (or other) issues, please call me toll-free at (866) 462-7994 or (608) 257-6334.

As always, I welcome your feedback and suggestions regarding this monthly e-newsletter or any other NASW WI program or service.

Sincerely yours,

Marc

Marc Herstand, MSW CISW
Executive Director
NASW WI Chapter

If you wish to be excluded from future emails of this nature from NASW please click <https://www.socialworkers.org/membercenter/newsprefs.asp>

