

Westchester Newsletter

Volume 2011, Issue 2

Spring 2011



Social workers are the unsung heroes of society but the news media often ignores their stories. Tell us when you see a moving story about social workers in newspapers, on television or the Internet. Or a story that got the facts wrong about social work. We'll post them in Cheers and Jeers. And the best items of the year will be nominated for NASW Media Awards! Please send your suggestions to Greg Wright at gwright@naswdc.org. Please CC: Westchester@naswnys.org

<http://www.socialworkersspeak.org/>

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Marriage Equality Reality

NASW strongly supported the Marriage Equality Act, Governor Cuomo's recent initiative which established marriage as a fundamental human right and allows same-sex and different-sex couples to receive equal treatment under law. The social work profession, in accordance with NASW Code of Ethics, recognizes the equal rights of all people without regard to sexual orientation. Thank you to our Policy Staff in Albany, Karin Moran, MSW and Brian Belz, MSW, who worked with the New Yorkers United for Marriage Campaign.

Westchester NASW is revitalizing the LGBT Committee. Please contact: Donna Festa, LCSW, festad@wcmc.com, 914.493.1753. Donna coordinates the Gateway Program at Westchester Medical Center, providing psychotherapy services to the LGBT Community.

Westchester Resources:

<http://lgbt.westchestergov.com/>

www.glsen.org/hudsonvalley





WORDS FROM THE DIRECTOR

Michael Cappiello, LCSW-R, 914.261.0431 or Westchester@naswnys.org

Effective July 1st Westchester Division will add three additional members to the Board of Directors of the NYS Chapter of NASW. We gathered in Albany for orientation in early June, and we continue to get high praise from our colleagues across the state for the leadership Westchester has demonstrated in our profession. A particular thanks to Anne Treantafeles, LMSW, who coordinates the identification of local leadership. We are looking to strengthen our partnerships with individuals, agencies, and groups to promote our profession and the work you each do. Anne's contact information is on the top of page 4.

I am sad to report the closing of 4 mental health clinics operated by Westchester County. The impact has been felt by local families, but also by professional social workers who lost their jobs. The Westchester Commissioner of Mental Health has also approved the closing of the Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Program (CPEP) based at Westchester Medical Center, this is our free standing psychiatric ER and mobile crisis team that works in collaboration with local Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to make sure those with acute mental illness are rapidly assessed and treated. The program keeps people out of jail, improves public safety, and ensures proper treatment. The Office of Mental Health has given conditional approval to close, and the County Board of Legislators seems to be asking more questions about the overall planning to be sure services are in place to meet the needs of the community. Please contact your legislator to voice your concern: the link to identify them is on page 3.

NASW is hearing from members who are concerned about agencies who have started using other professions to replace social workers. We are proud of the agencies who remain committed to the profession, to the college internships, and who realize the value of the education we bring to meet the challenges of today's reforms. NASW does recognition during March, both here in Westchester and at the statewide conference in Albany. We are looking for agencies and leaders to recognize for their dedication to the social work profession. Please nominate.

Hope! We are a profession of hope. I reported in Albany that we may lose some jobs in mental health in the short term; however, there is growth potential under federal healthcare reform in the areas of social work-case management. If you are part of any the reforms related to the "health home" (medical home) model, please let me know. Regardless of practice setting, social workers are the leaders in case management. See the article in the NYS Newsletter.

We are putting together a series of talks for the next academic year, and I am very appreciative of our members who volunteered their expertise this year to offer free events to our members and friends. Since our last newsletter: Bob Schavrien, LCSW, Diane Jaulus, LCSW, & Deirdre Drohan Forbes, LMSW, CASAC. It is active participation of our membership that makes this such a great division!

Thank you Steering Committee, which has seen increased participation this year. A particular thanks to Margot Elkin who provides administrative assistance on a continuous basis. You are all welcome to attend our meetings where committees report out, and new committees are born. It has been a pleasure representing each of you. Michael





The mission of the Social Work Policy Institute (SWPI), a think tank established within the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Foundation, is:

- To strengthen social work's voice in public policy deliberations.
- To inform policymakers through the collection and dissemination of information on social work effectiveness.
- To create a forum to examine current and future issues in health care and social service delivery.
- <http://www.socialworkpolicy.org/>

NASW Westchester Healthcare Committee is actively monitoring the establishment of the Healthcare Benefit Exchange in NYS, required by the Affordable Care Act. Our policy staff based in Albany has been attending the Health Care For All New York (HCFANY) stakeholders meetings. <http://hcfany.org/> If you are interested in learning more or joining the committee, please contact Ellen Blauner, LMSW, eblauner@verizon.net or call 914-948-4793. Meetings are once a month at Fordham University Westchester.

<http://www.votesmart.org>

Who are my Representatives? Type your address in the top line and find out. Print out the list, create an email distribution list, and be ready to contact your representatives on key issues that impact our community, our profession, and those we serve.
1-888-VOTE-SMART (1-888-868-3762)

Westchester County Board of Legislators

800 Michaelian Office Building
148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor
White Plains, New York 10601
Main Tel: (914)995-2800;
Fax: (914)995-3884

<http://westchesterlegislators.com/>

Find your Legislator!

? Who'd have guessed it? ? **Did You Know?** You don't say!! ??? ??? Imagine That!

News about Westchester Social Workers

Have News about/of interest to Westchester NASW members? WE NEED YOUR HELP to keep our Did You Know? Column going. If you, or a colleague, have participated in an activity, started a new position or project, joined a study group, given a talk, written an article, received recognition, etc., please WRITE out the information and mail it to Linda Conte, 1420 Journey's End Road, Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520 or e-mail it to linda@conte.org with "Did You Know" in the subject line. THANKS!!

REMEMBRANCE OF JOY POMARS-RADEN, CSW

June 8, 1938-April 14, 2011

A member of NASW since January 1, 1963. Survived by Judith Mayes MSN-BC, MAC, her life partner of 32 years, her sons Matthew and Greg, daughter-in-law Tamar and grandsons Benjamin and Jeremy. Joy was active as a social worker in several programs for youth in Westchester County and had a private practice of psychotherapy for the past 37 years. She was a member of the group of therapists, including her life partner, who developed and brought to fruition the Feminist Psychotherapy Collective of Westchester in 1975. This collective offered feminist-based counseling to women and their families in the tri-state area. She was a graduate of NYU School of Social Work.

Professional Social Work Leadership Opportunities: Westchester, New York State, National, International!

Please Contact: Anne Treantafeles, LMSW, Westchester Representative to the Chapter Committee on Nominations & Leadership Identification (CNLI).

atreantafele@fordham.edu 212-636-6602

Anne is an executive secretary in the Graduate School of Social Service at Fordham University, where she earned an MSW degree in 2010. She began involvement in Westchester Division events and activities during her studies, developed a division program called "Serving Those who have Served: Social Work with Active Duty Military, Veterans and Their Families" in 2009, and has served as the appointed Representative to CNLI since 2010. She has worked with other CNLI representatives from New York State, and is an active part of advocating for our professional organization and the values that it stands for. She enjoys speaking to social work students about the benefits of NASW membership and encouraging their involvement. Thank you Anne!



NASW-NYS elected THREE Statewide Representatives to Chapter Board of Directors from Westchester Division! They also join our local Steering Committee. Welcome!

Marcia Levy, Board Member at Large, After a twenty-year career as a teacher, and corporate trainer, Marcia S. Levy, LCSW-R received her MSW from Columbia University School of Social Work. She then worked in both outpatient and inpatient settings in AIDS, trauma, burn and end-of-life care at a public hospital, receiving promotions to Sr. Social Worker and Supervisor. Marcia has mentored many MSW students and new workers, creating and implementing continuing education programs, along with clinical writing workshops. She now works as a Living Donor Advocate at a large, academic medical center.



Gerald Welch, BSW Student Representative, is currently a BASW student attending classes at Fordham University. His experiences include correctional services as a motivational speaker for men and women seeking recovery and re-entry. He is a volunteer at the Delancey Street Foundation with residents in the recovery process. He also facilitates a men's fellowship group in Harrisburg, Pa.



Christina Horsford, MSW Student Representative, is entering her final year of clinical social work study at Fordham University specializing in "Older Persons and Their Families." She has earned both her undergraduate degree (B.S.) with Communication and Education foci, and graduate degree in Public Administration (M.P.A.) with an emphasis in Social Policy, from Cornell University. She currently serves as a Board Member of the Board of Directors of the Alzheimer's Association Hudson Valley/Rockland/Westchester County, NY Chapter. Christina has worked in dementia-specific day services for 10 years. She has been an NASW Student Member since her commencement at Fordham.



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Division Committees

JOIN the WESTCHESTER STEERING COMMITTEE

Contact MICHAEL CAPPIELLO, Westchester@naswnys.org or 914.261.0431

The **Steering Committee** identifies issues of concern to membership and plans Division events. It is our "Think Tank" for the Division. Ideas are welcome!

COMMITTEES and CONTACTS- *Be a participant – join a committee*

Committees are open - Start your own committee

<i>Annual Dinner</i>	Margot Elkin (martelkin@aol.com), Dottie Levin
<i>Awards</i>	Judith Goldstein (Westchester@naswnys.org)
<i>Disabilities</i>	Kathleen Friedman (kfriedma@nyp.org)
<i>Domestic Violence</i>	Diane Jaulus (Diana464@verizon.net)
<i>LGBT</i>	Donna Festa (FestaD@WCMC.com)
<i>Mental Health</i>	Diane Jaulus (Diana464@verizon.net)
<i>Multi-Cultural Affairs</i>	Billye Jones Mulraine (bmulraine@aol.com), Rudene Scipio
<i>Spirituality in Social Work Practice</i>	Bob Schavrien (schavrien@optonline.net)
<i>Undoing Racism</i>	Gerry Radano (gerryr419@aol.com)
<i>Universal Health Care</i>	Ellen Blauner (eblauner@verizon.net)
<i>Women's Issues</i>	Judy Goldstein (Westchester@naswnys.org) Paula Gilbert (Gilbertpgil2225@yahoo.com)
<i>Veterans Issues</i>	Anne Kelly Treantafeles (914)646-5094 (fergiekelly@gmail.com) Tina Atherall (Tina@hopeforthewarriors.org)

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

<i>Archives Linda Conte</i>	Linda Conte
<i>CNLI (Committee on Nominations & Leadership Identification)</i>	Anne K. Treantafeles
<i>Ethics Committee (National)</i>	Billye Jones Mulraine
<i>Finance Committee (State)</i>	Richard Steinberg
<i>Government Relations (State)</i>	Michael Cappiello
<i>Licensure</i>	Shirley Wallace
<i>Mentorship</i>	Susan Gerbino
<i>Outreach to Hispanic Social Workers</i>	Martha Lopez-Hanratty
<i>Survey for Division</i>	Linda Conte
<i>IFSW / UN-NGO Rep.</i>	Marcia Wallace
<i>Technology</i>	Ira Weinberg

NASW SPECIALTY PRACTICE SECTIONS (SPS):

Administration/Supervision
Health
Aging
Private Practice
Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs
School Social Work
Children, Adolescents and Young Adults
Social and Economic Justice & Peace
Child Welfare
Social Work and the Courts

Are YOU interested in leading a committee?

FACEBOOK:
National Association of Social
Workers (NASW), NYS
Chapter, Westchester Div

YOUTUBE:
WestchesterNASW

We are looking for someone to
administer these pages and
take on the role of
communications director.

Westchester@naswnys.org

Help Starts Here!

**New Practitioners – a great resource!
NASW Westchester Division's Mentoring Group is for you!**

NO MENTORING GROUP JULY OR AUGUST

Meets monthly. The group *conducts peer supervision, discusses issues faced by new social workers, lists current job openings and has outside speakers on a variety of professional topics.* Meetings are usually the 3rd Saturday of the month, 9:30 a.m. – 12 noon, at NY Presbyterian Hospital, 21 Bloomingdale Road, White Plains, 10605. Contact persons: Susan Gerbino, Ph.D - Sbg28@aol.com; Ira Weinberg, LCSW – iraphoto@juno.com

The mentoring group has been using Yahoo Groups for exchanging information, receiving notices of meetings, speakers and events, and sending messages to its members. It is an interactive way of communicating with other professionals.

To learn more about the **WESTCHESTERNASW** Mentoring group, type the following in your browser:
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/westchesternasw/>



Then become a member of **WESTCHESTERNASW**, click on the **Join Group** button or send an email to Westchesternasw-subscribe@yahoo.com

This will allow you to become a member and receive our regular meeting announcements, job information and scheduled speakers. Only Members can receive e-mails about the mentoring group and take part in a dialogue with other members.

Spirituality and Mental Health-The Journey to Wholeness

Nancy Kehoe RSCJ, PhD

Wednesday, October 19, 2011 at 5:30

College of New Rochelle

The journey to wholeness is a process of integration, of knowing that being fully human, fully alive means attending to our bodies, our minds and our spirits. Based on my own journey of years as a member of the Religious of the Sacred Heart, a Roman Catholic order of nuns, 23 years in private psychotherapy practice and 30 years of leading groups on spirituality with adults who suffer with serious mental illness, I will reflect on this path. I will focus on ways in which my work with the chronically mentally ill has led me to a profound sense of wholeness, identifying the life-giving spirit within me. *Nancy Kehoe.*

<http://wrestlingwithourinnerangels.wordpress.com> nancy_kehoe@hms.harvard.edu

Thank You to Bob Shavrien, LCSW, for organizing this event.



Looking for Outstanding Social Worker: Nominations Needed. Reminder: look around your program for those who are doing some exceptional, innovative work that deserves to be recognized. Here is your chance to highlight someone you know who is making a contribution to the social work profession and to the community.

SOCIAL WORKER OF THE YEAR
PUBLIC CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION
MERIT SERVICE TO THE WESTCHESTER DIVISION

The 2012 awards will be presented at the ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER, March 29, 2012 (Save the Date)



THE MULTI-CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

ON FRIDAY, APRIL 8TH 2011, CONCORDIA COLLEGE hosted the 34TH ANNUAL Whitney M. Young, Jr. Memorial Symposium. **Robert E. Fullilove**, Ed. D., Associate Dean for Community Affairs, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University presented the topic:

HIV in Communities of Color: Is the Culture of Silence Being Reinforced?

Dr. Fullilove's presentation drew from his 26 years working in the area of HIV. He noted that this year—2011—marked the 30th anniversary of the recognition of HIV as a disease. The virus takes ten to fifteen years to fully develop. What was happening in society in the time leading up to the first reported cases? Dr. Fullilove brought us back in history to his own experiences in 1964—the routine killings of blacks, the significance of the civil rights movement, and the invisibility of black Americans. Civil disobedience and mass demonstrations during the long hot summers, 1964 through 1968, raised awareness of the issues; however, the demonstrations were seen as the problem and the solution became law enforcement to quiet the crowds. During this time period our society and economy were moving from an industrial, manufacturing society that provided a fairly good standard of living for many people living in cities, to a post-industrial society. Cities lost job opportunities and people. Enter the ready presence of drugs. Although drug abuse was a medical problem, society saw it as a criminal issue and responded according—stiff prison sentences. The prison population swelled (1972, 200,000; 2010, 2.3 million) resulting in a prison industrial complex, largely incarcerating Black Americans. During those years AIDS was spreading inside the prison.

A prison sentence does not end when leaving, as a felon loses rights: cannot vote, cannot apply for public assistance, public housing or section 8; cannot apply for education loans in some states. On top of this, access to healthcare and continuity of treatment remain challenges today. History has taken a back seat in our society; in many schools, the subject is no longer stressed. Dr. Fullilove reminded us of the importance of understanding today's public health challenges through our history. (Photo: Dierdre Wallace-Hines)



Dierdre Wallace-Hines, Director of the HIV & Prevention Services at Settlement Health and Medical Services in New York City, began the meeting with statistics and a presentation related to the impact in Westchester County. She and Dr. Fullilove concluded the presentation by leading an informative group discussion.

Anmarie Dippolt, MSW & Michael Cappiello, LCSW



Margot Elkin, MSW, presenting the 2011 Whitney M. Young, Jr. Stipend for Social Action & Change Award to Stephanie Carnes, Fordham University.

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Westchester Group Psychotherapy Society (WGPS) was formed to promote education, research, training, and the open exchange of ideas between mental health professionals on the practice of group psychotherapy. In addition, WGPS provides a place for networking and referral information among its members. **President: Leo Leiderman, PsyD, ABPP, CGP**, Contact: leiderman@westchester-nps.com

www.wgps.org

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Contact: Anmarie Dippolt, MSW at 1800-724-6279 x44 or Westchester@naswnys.org

NYS CHAPTER "UPDATE" ADVERTISEMENTS

Celisia Street, LMSW, Celisia_Street@naswnys.org, www.naswnys.org/newsad.htm