

SCSW NEWSLETTER

Vol. V, No. 1

January, 1975

SOCIETY OF CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKERS

LEGISLATIVE ROUND-UP

On the national scene, Crayton Rowe met in Washington on December 7th with representatives of NASW to discuss legislation affecting social workers. Discussion regarding PSRO's was also held.

Pat Hewitt, the legislative advocate of the National Federation of Societies for Clinical Social Work has resigned as of December 31, 1974. The Federation voted to hire a part-time Executive Director, who, in addition to administrative responsibility, will assume some legislative functions. A search committee has been organized and it is expected that the post will be filled shortly. Crayton Rowe, on behalf of the New York State Society, is planning to introduce a proposal at the next Federation meeting calling for the creation of a separate legislative arm within the Federation. It is hoped that this would insure the full participation and representation of clinical social workers in national legislation affecting our profession. This seems particularly necessary at this time because of the likelihood of national health insurance in the near future as well as the PSRO legislation.

In Albany, the trend of professional licensing efforts seems to be towards an omnibus approach. This means that a general classification of "mental health professional" will be established with sub-categories for individual disciplines or practice specialties. It is thought that only an approach of this kind will be acceptable to legislators.

Two groups are working on omnibus bills. One, the Joint Council for Mental Health has been active for many years. Another, ACES (The New York State Association for Counselor Educators and Supervisors) has just begun work this year. ACES is a professional association composed of personnel counselors, occupational therapists, school guidance persons, counselor educators and employment counselors.

At this time, SCSW is in the process of assessing the legislative situation and consulting with our legislative advocate, Jim Ryan. More specific information regarding particular bills must await the opening of the legislative session in January.

President's Column

An edited version of Mr. Rowe's Address to the General Membership Meeting, November 3, 1974.

It is a great personal honor to be elected President. When I look back to the beginnings of our Society, I do so with deep respect for those dedi-

cated founders who got together out of love for the profession of clinical social work and out of indignation at what was happening to it. Our struggle for equality (with other mental health professionals) has gained tremendous momentum. Our State Society has grown to over 400 members and 4 chapters. Nationally, we have 15 member-state organizations which compose the Federation of Societies of Clinical Social Work.

Our Federation is actively lobbying for inclusion of clinical social workers as third party vendors in upcoming national health legislation. Professional standards review organizations and committees to provide accountability within our profession are being established on state and national levels.

New York State SCSW committees are busy working on important issues. Some of these include the revision work of the By-laws Committee, chaired by Beverly Unger, the study of insurance package plans available

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REFERRAL SERVICE

Marlene Menifee, Chairperson of the Referral Committee, announces that the State Referral Service has over two hundred participating members. Three referral centers have been organized.

The Manhattan office will service Manhattan, Bronx, Brooklyn and Staten Island and will have an intake worker who will refer patients on to participating members. The service will begin very soon. The phone number to refer patients to is 674-8177.

The Nassau-Suffolk Center will service Long Island and Queens. The phone number for applications for service will be 516-488-2000.

The Westchester-Rockland Center has been offering service for a few months. Their answering service number is 914-OW-8-8137.

to members by the Insurance Committee, chaired by Don Whipple, as well as the Education Committee, headed by Florence Lieberman, which is exploring the feasibility of setting up a clinical doctorate program, a professional training institute and improving clinical sequences in master degree programs. It is important that our committee chairpeople and members get to know each other so all questions and information can be funneled directly to the appropriate source, thus insuring optimum functioning. As President, I intend to be available to every member. Every Executive Board meeting is open to the membership. Any interested member who would like to attend a Board Meeting or serve on a committee should contact me or any Board member or Chairperson for information. In closing, I would once again like to express my enthusiasm for the future growth of our clinical society and to express my personal gratitude for all the past and current efforts that have been made by our members to keep our Society strong.

INSURANCE REIMBURSEMENT

Margrit Wreschner, Chairperson of the Insurance Vendorship Committee, says the Committee has been collating close to eighty responses to the questionnaire sent to members as well as responses from Federation groups. Preliminary results indicate at least eleven insurance companies which have been directly covering social work therapists. Such coverage depends on the individual contract, each company may not have a consistent policy. Bankers Life is one company which recently took a consistent stance, having agreed to reimburse social workers as therapists. The Insurance Vendorship Committee will be providing detailed findings and will be discussing ramifications in a future informational mailing to members.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE PLANS INSTITUTE FOR FEBRUARY 8th

Florence Lieberman, Chairperson of the Education Committee, advises of the committee's expectation of beginning a series of Institutes coordinated with our Membership meetings, the first to begin on February 8th. Members will be invited to register in advance for one of six workshops. The day will include a plenary speaker, a brunch, a Dutch Treat Cocktail Party, as well as the Membership meeting and Workshops. Workshop topics include clinical approaches to work with seriously disturbed persons, families, the divorced or widowed, sexual issues and marital therapy.

In addition, the Education Committee is planning involvement with Social Work Schools in order to improve the clinical sequences.

CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK JOURNAL...

A new arrangement has been worked out with Behavioral Publications, publishers of the Journal. Subscription renewal notices were sent in error to SCSW members and an apology from Behavioral Publications should reach you soon. All SCSW Members and Fellows in good standing (dues paid by September 1, 1974) should receive the following issues of the Journal: Winter '74, Spring '75, Summer '75, and Fall '75.

BRIEF NOTES...

Rita Gazarik (585 West End Avenue, New York 10024) is in charge of the Arrangements Committee for the February 8th Institute, details of which are reported above. Volunteers are needed to man the Membership Desk from 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. Responsibilities include informing prospective members about SCSW. If you can contribute some time, please drop a note to Rita. Further information regarding the Institute will be sent to you shortly. SCSW members are asked to post notice of the meeting at their places of work and to encourage colleagues to attend.

SCSW NEWSLETTER/

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SCSW CHAPTER NEWS

NASSAU

Nassau Chapter President, Beverly Unger, was asked to participate in a panel discussion on "Marriage Encounter" during the October 30th meeting of the Nassau County Psychological Association at Hofstra University. This was the first cooperative venture of NCPA and clinical social workers in Nassau County.

Eleanor Botney, C.S.W., spoke at the Nassau Chapter's October meeting regarding the Divorce Information Center organized in Nassau County by NOW. The Center offers counseling to men and women considering separation prior to their consulting a lawyer.

In the November meeting, Helen Hurewitz, C.S.W., Director of the South Nassau Communities Hospital Mental Health Clinics at Freeport and Oceanside, explored the topic of "Facing up to Death-Coping with Death, Dying and Families in Pain".

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SUFFOLK

On November 13, 1974, the Suffolk Chapter co-sponsored an all-day conference "The Treatment of the Abused Child and His Family." Over 200 social workers and other professionals attended. In the main presentation, Dr. Raymond Helfer, a pediatrician, developed a diagnostic criteria for the battered-child syndrome and predictors of high-risk abusing parents. The conference included a film and several afternoon workshops, focused on a variety of treatment approaches. The program was closed by a general meeting which tried to identify ongoing needs and suggestions for program changes in Child Protective Services.

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Referral: Don Kazenoff, C.S.W. (as above)

WESTCHESTER//ROCKLAND

The meeting of November 16th, the second in a series of four professional meetings on "Trends in Social Work Education", was well attended. Dr. Burt Shacter, of the NYU Graduate School of Social Work, member of the Council on Social Work Education was the main speaker. He noted that schools were gearing programs to produce a social worker more capable of integrating different approaches, more flexible in adopting different modalities. Clinical interest is very strong... 120 out of 135 students have elected NYU's clinical sequence. He warned of an alarming trend developing which emphasizes delivering cheaper, faster casework without diagnostic criteria and commented on the dilemma in clinical social work: retreating into an elitist, protective stance vs. abandoning the field to non-clinicians. He advised using our awareness of this trend to help shape the mainstream of social work.

As of October, 1974, the Information and Referral Service has 33 private practitioners registered in W/R chapter. The majority of fees range between \$15-\$35 per session. An office locating service is maintained free of charge by the Chapter. Inquiries should be directed to Geraldine Costa, C.S.W.

The next chapter meeting on Saturday, January 18th at 2 P.M. will be devoted to the Information and Referral Service.

The following officers were elected on June 1, 1974 for the year 1974-1975:

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AMONG OUR MEMBERS....

On Friday, November 22nd, BARBARA GETZ, C.S.W., presented a paper at the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Psychiatric Services for Children. The paper was entitled "Sex-role Stereotyping and Children: Mental Health or Social Pathology?"....As of September, 1974, GERALDINE COSTA, C.S.W. has been invited to join the faculty of the Long Island Consultation Center training program. A training seminar in "Crisis Intervention" will be shared with the Medical Director, Leonard Deutsch, M.D.....In November, MARTIN SYLVESTER, C.S.W., addressed the staff of the Bronx State Hospital. He spoke on Legal Regulation of Social Workers in New York State. In December, he spoke at the main office of the H.I.P.. The subject was referral and treatment of homosexuals and their families....

All members of SCSW are encouraged to send notice of their professional activities to the Editor for inclusion in the Newsletter. Let's hear from you and get to know each other!

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----- BULLETIN BOARD -----

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OFFICES FOR RENT

Office available for rental by the hour. Location is on Central Park West at 90th Street; very desirable. Cost is \$4 or \$5 (depending on time of the hours). Small blocks of time are also possible, at somewhat reduced rates. Call-724-8003.

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Office space to rent: West Village - 9th Street between Fifth and Sixth Avenue. Furnished. Call Ms. T. Manuelian 691-5237, or Ms. D. Bernstein 228-2278.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Psychotherapist - Part-time positions for therapists interested in doing intensive analytically oriented psychotherapy. Fees paid on a per-session basis. Staff seminars and supervision is available. For application or further information, contact: Mildred Schwartz, Ph. D., Director of Treatment Services, Institute for Contemporary Psychotherapy, 1 West 91st Street, New York, N. Y. 10024, (212) 595-3444.

ADVANCED TRAINING

The Institute for Contemporary Psychotherapy is currently accepting applications for admission to the 1975 class, beginning in September 1975. The program at the Institute provides for a formal three-year course of study in psychoanalytic psychotherapy for qualified professionals. It involves intensive work both on a practicum and on a theoretical level. The core curriculum includes work in 4 areas related to the psychotherapeutic process.

For a complete Bulletin and further information, write to: William F. O'Donnell, Ph. D., Director of Training; Institute for Contemporary Psychotherapy, 1 West 91st Street; New York, N. Y. 10024 (212) 595-3444.

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American Institute for Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis announces that Social Workers seeking advanced training may obtain a free copy of its 1974-75 Bulletin of Information, describing more than 50 workshops and seminars. Selected registrants may be assigned cases under free supervision. American Institute for Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis, 140 West 58th Street, New York, N. Y. 10019, (CI-5-1740 or JU-6-8160)

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NOTICES

PSYCHODRAMA, March 20-23, 1975. 33rd Annual Meeting and Psychodrama Training Institute, American Society of Group Psychotherapy and Psychodrama, Stalter Hilton Hotel, New York City. Contact: A.S.G.P.F., 39 East 20 Street, New York, N.Y. 10003; (212) 260-3860.

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Community Guidance Service, Inc., with an expanded staff of more than 300 qualified therapists and allied professionals, announces that it is now able to process referrals without delay. Fees usually range from 0 to \$15 for individual sessions, 0-\$7.50 for group. Telephone CI-5-1740.

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National Institute for the Psychotherapies - First Annual Winter Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico, January 22-26, 1975. For further information, write: Dr. Henry Grayson or Dr. Clemens Loew, Conference Co-Chairmen, N.I.P., 330 West 58th Street, New York, N.Y. 10019, (212) 582-1566.

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Attention Temporarily Unemployed--- Are you interested in forming a group for women social workers who are temporarily unemployed or who are working part-time to discuss pertinent professional issues? Problems related to the conflict-ing demands of profession, family, and self will be considered. The meeting will be at Linda Barbanell's apartment, 1245 Park Avenue, on Saturday, Feb. 22 at 11:00 A.M. Please call 348-1434 if you are interested.

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Office Locating Service - The New York Counseling and Guidance Service announces that it is instituting an "Office Locating Service" for private practitioners. Free of charge, New York Counseling and Guidance Service will maintain at their offices a listing of persons interested in renting office space and those with space to rent. For further information or for listing, call the Service at 362-1086.

Announcements of professional interest are accepted for the SCSW Newsletter at no charge. Publication does not imply endorsement.