

Volume 4

No. 6

LACSW Newsletter

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Lafayette — Terry Zenner, Connie Konikoff

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President's Message June 2006

By Judy Haspel

Dear Members,

This has been a busy legislative season for LACSW. As you know, the CEAP bill resurfaced and its defeat was our first priority. This year, the Addictions Counselors presented their licensing bill and although the language seems benign, we were concerned enough to write a resolution, very similar to the one we did last year, where we requested that the matter be studied. We are seeking "clarification" on whether or not any other discipline may regulate or limit our practice. This time the LPC's joined us in our resolution, which was presented by Senator Jackson. (See p. 5)

Our own bill, SB 555, has been deferred. We were requesting that Clinical Social Workers be included as Medicaid providers by the state of Louisiana. DHH has agreed in principle with the idea and reports that they are hoping to resolve this outside of the legislature. They are looking for funding within their department to start a pilot program of some sort. We will share the details when we have them. We are grateful for the support of NASW, the Alliance for Children and Families, and the School Based Health Clinics in these matters. The Senators who supported us are Sharon Weston Broome and Lydia Jackson.

For a full report by our legislative chair, Debbie Fernandez, please see page 3. Many thanks to Debbie for the outstanding work for this organization and for Social Workers in the state of Louisiana. Sadly, she is stepping down as legislative chair. However, Maureen Powell will assume a leadership role in this stimulating position.

CSWF has transformed into a new organization, "CSWA" ("A" for "Association"). There will be various levels of involvement and fee structures for state societies, including the no fee "affiliate" status. The board has preliminarily decided that if we do "affiliate", it will be at this level, as we would like to maintain contacts with other states.

However, there is another possibility in that ABECSSW is changing their organization in a way in which state societies may affiliate with them if they so choose. For a report on this, see p.2.

In response to the recent disasters, DHH and the LCSW Board have adopted emergency rules so that people not licensed in the state of Louisiana can practice here if they are licensed in another state. LACSW will participate on an inter-organizational committee relative to changes to the *Rules, Standards and Procedures*. Topics will include exploitation, sex with former patients, fee structure, (continue Message P. 6.)

WELCOME NEW AND RETURNING BOARD MEMBERS

Gary Tiemann

Gary joins us from Shreveport, where he recently served as the NASW Region chair. Currently, he is Vice President of the Shreveport Region. In his private practice, he treats adults and specializes in hypnosis. He is certified in hypnosis by the American Society of Clinical Hypnosis.

Mim Aretsky

Formerly President of the Board of the Louisiana Association for Clinical Social Workers, Mim took a hiatus from the Board to develop her practice, which includes a specialty in Biofeedback. Mim made significant contributions to the community in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, including engaging in “guerilla social work” tactics. She was on the ground, doing whatever needed to be done.

ABECSW Creates The Center for Clinical Social Work

“The American Board of Examiners in Clinical Work (ABE) has created The Center for clinical Social Work, a national not-for-profit organization to represent and serve all clinical social workers. Expanding outward from ABE’s national base in advanced-practice credentialing, the Center is intended to be a unifying force amid the diversity and dynamism of the profession. A National Bill of Right for Clinical Social Workers is the basis for the Center’s advocacy, which will be conducted by a full-time staff, nationwide and in every state and jurisdiction.”

According to Bob Booth, Executive Director, ABE is still intact and will continue to do Board Certification. In addition, they have created an entity, The Center for Clinical Social Work, which will serve as an umbrella organization for ABE and some new units. The purposes of the four units are as follows:

1. Credentialing, Board-certification, Standard-setting (ABE)
2. Advocating for Practitioners and Clients
3. Enhancing Education, training, and Research
4. Collaborating with other Organizations

Abe did some marketing research into the field with some disturbing results. They learned that Clinical Social Workers over the age of 50 do refer to themselves as Clinical Social Workers, while those younger 50 tend to identify themselves in terms of the job they do instead of the profession itself. For example, In the field of Substance Abuse, the practitioner would refer to himself as a Substance Abuse Counselor who practices under the Clinical Social Work license. According to Booth, this is a national trend. The changes in ABE are intended to do something to make sure the field of Clinical Social Work survives.. With the demise of the Clinical Social Work Federation and ABE’s own marketing research, ABE hopes to become the voice for Clinical social work on a national basis through the Center for Clinical Social Work.

Pertinent to our organization (LACSW) is purpose number 4. The newly formed Center is creating a Council of Colleague Organizations. “The Council is a forum of all organizations and agencies that endorse the mission and purposes of the Center for Clinical Social Work and wish to affect the future of clinical social work. The Center intends to sponsor an on-line discussion service for the Council members, and to create partnerships with state clinical social work societies and associations, and others, to assist in marketing, lobbying, advocacy, testimony, and court briefs.” The Council will advise the Center’s board of directors and generate new ideas for professional advancement.

According to Bob Booth, they have already met with the California, New York, and Illinois Clinical Societies, and they will keep

Legislative Report 2006 by Debbie Fernandez

Our primary focus for this session was to monitor any EAP bill which may appear. One was filed by Sen. Schedler, which we actively opposed very early on in the session via some of our allies from past sessions. In the end, the bill was not heard although the force behind the bill did try to have it heard several times in the last few days. We don't know if our lobbying was in any way responsible, but for now are relieved that it is not an issue.

Our second order of business was our Bill attempting to identify social workers as providers for Medicaid. We filed Senate Bill 555, submitted by Senators Sharon Broome and Lydia Jackson.

Subsequently, several things transpired. We requested a meeting with Carmen Weisner (NASW), representatives from DHH who handle all Medicaid business, Maxine, and the Senators to evaluate DHH's position. The representatives from DHH were initially skeptical primarily because of anticipated costs to the state. We and NASW provided information to them which resulted in DHH's becoming convinced that the idea warranted support; then the issue became funding. It was suggested that we do a line-item proposal to the budget to insure funding, which was followed by discussion regarding possible passage. It was determined that DHH would prefer that we meet over the next few months to outline a specific proposal providing guidelines for budget, qualifying social workers and administration of the services and the claims. It was apparent that we must have DHH's support in order to pass this, so we negotiated with them to begin the process of determining the "who, what, where, when and how" details. As of last week, Maxine spoke with DHH, the upshot of which was that Dr. Cerise will identify who are the persons from DHH who will be assigned to this project in the next few weeks. Sen. Broome will contact Dr. Cerise's office to try to expedite this so that meeting will begin shortly in hopes that we will be ready to file our bill with DHH's support by the next session. We considered this a success because 1) although DHH wasn't thrilled that we filed this without consulting them in advance, filing did mandate their taking action, which otherwise may have dragged on in discussions indefinitely 2) we had a very encouraging and productive interaction/collaboration with NASW as their response to our Resolution.

We supported the following bills, all of which passed:

SB 612—established a Predator Alert System

SB 596—established immunity for healthcare professionals who provide volunteer services during a state of emergency

HB543—limited persons allowed to be present during child sexual abuse hearings

SB 596—provides penalties for persons providing mental health services without a license

HB 983—provides for improved tracking of sex offenders.

We also monitored for: 1) school social workers bills— none filed; 2) HB 638, Rep. Michael Jackson—bill to establish new Office of Behavioral Health—not heard; 3) HB 1255—Rep. Durand—bill to regulate addictions counselors—Passed and sent to the Governor. We did not find any language or content which would appear to prohibit or exclude us; 4) HB's 165 and 266 Rep. Ansardi—bills which identify mediators in child custody and juvenile court disputes—passed and sent to the Governor. Social Workers listed as qualified.

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Health and Hospitals

Board of Social Work Examiners

Practice of Social Work
(LXXV.309Q)

The Department of Health and Hospital, Board of Social Work Examiners (the “Board”) has adopted this emergency rule, effective June 29, 2006, in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act. R.X. 49:953, and the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act R.S. 37:2701-2723, as well as R.S. 29:769 (E), as amended in Act. No. 207 of the 2006 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, which became effective upon the Governor’s signature on June 2, 2006. The emergency rule is to remain in effect for a period of 120 days or until adoption of the final rule, whichever occurs first.

In keeping with its function as set forth by the State Legislature in R.S. 29:769 (E), as amended in the 2006 Regular Session, the Board has developed and adopted this emergency rule thereby creating the process for adopting of a future emergency rule implementing temporary registration in Louisiana, during a public health emergency lawfully declared as such by the Governor, for out of state social workers whose licenses, certifications or registrations are current and unrestricted in another jurisdiction of the United States.

The 2006 hurricane season began June 1, 2006. The immediate implementation of this emergency rule is in the best interest for the protection of the public health and safety in the event a public health emergency is lawfully declared by the Governor prior to the final promulgation of the rule through regular rule-making procedure. This emergency rule will allow the implementation by subsequent emergency rule for the temporary registration in Louisiana, during a public health emergency lawfully declared as such by the Governor, for out of state social workers whose licenses, certifications or registrations are current and unrestricted in another jurisdiction of the United States. The emergency rule will not limit or adversely impact the practices of Louisiana social workers at the present time or during a declared state of public health emergency.

<p>Education Related Questions.</p> <p>Please note we have a new email address specifically set up for your questions regarding upcoming educational events. You may contact the committee at:</p>	<p>Our website is www.lacsw.org. Website ID is “LACSW”, and your password is “strength”. If any LACSW member would like to post a short clinical article on our website (no charge), crediting yourself and with a link to your website if you have one, contact Charlene Spears at 337-237-9150</p>
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Regular Session, 2006 **ENROLLED**

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 173

BY SENATOR JACKSON

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Health and Hospitals to study and clarify the issue of whether a licensed social worker and a licensed professional counselor may continue to provide prevention and treatment of substance abuse and addictive disorders without additional certification for these services.

WHEREAS, prevention and treatment are legitimate areas of practice for all social workers, as set forth in Act 1309 of the 1999 Regular Session, known as the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act, and licensed professional counselors; and

WHEREAS, social workers are licensed and regulated by the Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners; and

WHEREAS, licensed professional counselors are licensed and regulated by the Louisiana Licensed Professional Counselors Board of Examiners.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana hereby urges and requests that the Department of Health and Hospitals study and clarify the issue of whether a licensed social worker and a licensed professional counselor may continue to provide prevention and treatment of substance abuse and addictive disorders without additional certification for these services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health and Hospitals shall report its findings to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare no later than March 1, 2007.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

Meeting dates 2005-2006

BOARD RETREAT

August 11, 2006

Meetings are at Behavioral Hospital of Baton Rouge. All members are invited to attend.

INFORMAL SURVEY

What legal entity is your practice under ?

(if any)

Examples: LLC, S Corp. Unincorporated

Please respond to me at JOHASPEL@aol.com,
or (504)915-5205.

Thanks

New corporate member

Mamou Health Resources, Inc. (a nonprofit corporation) operates a community mental health clinic located at 1510 Napoleon St., Mamou, La. The clinic provides partial hospitalization, mental health rehabilitation and individual and family outpatient services. Services are provided to geriatrics, adults, adolescents, children, and families. Its clients are served by a professional and paraprofessional staff which includes psychiatrists, licensed social workers, registered nurses, CNA's, and others. Mamou Health Resources, Inc. is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO).

Message (cont p. 1)

continuing education, definition of employee, and supervision. To view the Declaration of Emergency, see p. 4.

Thanks to those of you who have contributed ideas and articles for this newsletter. There has been too much going on this year to include everything, but we will print them when we have space.

Again, thanks to the LACSW board, whose leadership continues to provide inspiration. Louisiana is highly regarded around the country for the work we have done to advance clinical social work practice.

NEW CONCEPTS IN CONTINUING EDUCATION

MAKE LACSW YOUR ONE STOP SHOPPING PLACE

Next year we are planning to provide 20 hours of continuing education that will meet all of your requirements for clinical and ethical hours. If you are a member of LACSW, please seriously consider attending our "Master" classes for members only. These are held in small groups in the comfort of someone's home. They are geared to an advanced level of practice and are a very painless way to earn continuing education credit.

Details will soon follow, but you can anticipate:

October—Andrea Scheele, LCSW, 4 hours on attachment issues (Master Class)

January—Peggy Brown, LCSW, 4 hours on meditation (Master Class)

And tentatively:

March—ethics, May—hypnosis, June-EMDR with Trauma

LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKERS

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND REFERRAL DIRECTORY INFORMATION

MEMBERSHIP YEAR: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

IDENTIFYING INFORMATION: Please list the information you wish to be used in the Membership Referral Directory for members and the public and as a marketing tool for approaching managed care companies.

NAME:

(Last, First, Middle Initial or Nickname) – Please Print

CREDENTIALS: (Please circle all that apply) GSW LCSW Diplomate Bd. Approved Supervisor

OTHER CERTIFICATIONS:

PHYSICAL ADDRESS:

(Street, City, State, Zip)

MAILING ADDRESS:

if different from above (Street, City, State, Zip)

E-MAIL: _____ Website: _____ OFFICE PHONE: (____) _____ - _____

FAX: (____) _____ - _____ HOME PHONE: (____) _____ - _____ List Home In Directory: Yes No

How do you prefer to be contacted? _____ Mail _____ Fax _____ Email _____ Office Phone _____ Home Phone _____ Any listed

LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION: Please use your Voter Registration Card to complete the following:

State Senator: _____ Senator District Number: _____

Representative: _____ Representative District Number: _____

MEMBERSHIP DUES: Please make payable to LACSW c/o Charlene Spears, Treasurer, 1001 W. Pinhook, Bldg. 3, Ste. 305, Laf., LA 70503

	New	Renewal		
_____ Student Membership	_____	_____	\$ 20.00	\$ _____ Ck # _____
_____ GSW/MSW Membership	_____	_____	\$ 75.00	\$ _____ Ck # _____
_____ LCSW Membership	_____	_____	\$195.00	\$ _____ Ck # _____
_____ Retired Membership	_____	_____	\$ 50.00	\$ _____ Ck # _____
_____ Agency/Corp. Membership	_____	_____	\$300.00	\$ _____ Ck # _____

CONTRIBUTIONS:

_____ Membership Scholarship Fund (For those in need from Hurricanes Katrina & Rita) \$ _____ Ck# _____

_____ Clin-Pac (Political Action Committee) – Please make payable to Clin-Pac \$ _____ Ck # _____

_____ Donation For Lobbying Efforts – Please make payable to LACSW \$ _____ Ck # _____

Group Name or Place of Employment: _____

Practice Setting: _____ Private Practice _____ Agency Setting _____ In Patient _____ Clinic _____ Consultation Services: Yes No

Work Schedule: _____ Full-Time _____ Part-Time _____ Days _____ Evenings _____ Saturdays

Populations: _____ Children _____ Adolescents _____ Adults _____ Geriatric

Cultural Issues: _____ African American _____ Asians _____ Hispanics

Modalities: _____ Individual Therapy _____ Couple Therapy _____ Group Therapy _____ Family Therapy

Specialty Groups: _____ Therapeutic Models: _____

Please list clinical specializations

Are you interested in participating in the Speaker's Bureau? _____ If yes, please list topics below:



P.O. Box 14153
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

READ THIS NEWSLETTER AND PASS IT ON TO A NON-MEMBER.

Reminder: Please go to our website, www.lacsw.org to update your data. This is free publicity for your practice. Password is strength.

OUR CORPORATE SPONSOR

BEHAVIORAL HOSPITAL OF BATON ROUGE

4040 N. BLVD.

BATON ROUGE, LA. 70806

(225) 343-1994

Moving? Missed an Issue?

Please contact us at:

LACSW

**P.O. Box 14153
Baton Rouge, LA 70808 or**

lacsw2@hotmail.com

To Contact Your Licensing Board:

Send \$5.00 to the board for a copy of "The Rules, Standards, and Procedures of the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act- amended Oct.24, 2003.

Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners

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email: socialwork@labswe.org

Website: <http://www.labswe.org>
