The Center would like to extend our congratulations to the 2011 fall Title IV-E graduates: Leonor Cisnero-Salazar (MSW) from Texas State; Nicole Curtis (BSW) and Ashley McKibben (BSW) both from Our Lady of the Lake University (OLLU).

Good luck on your future endeavors!

The Center would also like to welcome the 2012 spring pre-service students. From Austin, Region 7, there is Sarah Wardlow (BSW). From San Antonio, Region 8, there is MSW student Maribel Aguilar from Texas State. Also, we would like to welcome BSW students, Jennifer Iruegas and Tina Lopez both from OLLU.

Lastly, the Center would like to welcome its newest interns, Crystal Slaughter, Lacey Bourque, and Jason Robbins. We are looking forward to a great year!

March is National Social Work month. This year’s theme is Social Work Matters.

The focus will be a kick off to build a formal “case for social work” in the United States.

The key messages for “Why Social Work Matters” are that social work is unlike any other profession and has been instrumental in achieving civil rights as well as human rights advances in the U.S. Key messages include social workers addressing gaps in social systems and having an ethical obligation to advocate for social changes benefiting the most people.

Overall, the theme is to communicate the importance of social work.

There are four main activities and resources that the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) will have in celebration of Social Work Month. (See page 2).
The Children’s Bureau has added some new resources to their website. One recent addition to the website includes: Foster Care Title IV-E Review. The Foster Care Title IV-E Review is the schedule for IV-E reviews for fiscal year 2012 and is now available online.

The Children’s Bureau Online Digest provided numerous resources in its recent Children’s Bureau Express December 2011/January 2012 volume. One resource included internships for foster youth. The FosterClub All-Star is providing a 2012 summer internship with FosterClub. If chosen, the youth will assist in planning and facilitating the Independent Living Teen Conferences and other foster care and child welfare events held throughout the country. Selected youth will attend an intensive leadership training session and the youth will assist in facilitating conferences as Junior Staff. For more information regarding the application and dates, please visit http://www.fosterclub.com.

(continued) 2012 Social Work Month

The four activities and resources include:

* Social Work Month Toolkit: The Case for Social Work
* NASW on National Public Radio (NPR)
* Social Work Media Awards
* World Social Work Day

The next phase of the National Social Work Public Education Campaign is to emphasize societal need for social workers. This campaign has added new tools to the 2012 Social Work Month Toolkit: The Case for Social Work. The toolkit includes 8 new topics: Adolescent and Youth Development; Aging And Family Caregiving; Child Protection and Family Services; Health Care Navigation; Poverty Reduction; Military and Veterans Assistance; Mental and Behavioral Health Treatment; Nonprofit Management and Community Development. (See page 3).

SAVE THE DATES!

* 2012 NASW National Conference
  This year’s NASW National Conference theme is Restoring Hope: The Power of Social Work. The conference will be held July 22-25, 2012 in Washington, DC. Social workers will learn how to expand their understanding about the importance of hope and resiliency in their work.

* Texas Law for the Social Worker
  NASW/Texas 2012 will host the Texas Law for the Social Worker. This workshop will be held February 25, 2012 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. in Houston, Texas. The workshop has two sessions: TSBSWE Adopts New Rules and NASW/Texas Legislative Update.

* 18th National Conference on Child Abuse & Neglect
  The conference theme is Celebrating the Past—Imagining the Future and takes place April 16-20, 2012 in D.C. The conference provides the opportunity to reflect on past accomplishments and lessons learned. For more information: www.pal-tech.com/web/OCAN/
Subscribe to E-lert!

Starting in January of 2012, the Child Welfare Information Gateway website has provided something new called E-lert! E-lert! provides information about the latest child welfare news and resources.

Child Welfare Information Gateway provides the options of receiving free alerts via e-mail or through an RSS feed. The website provides the option of choosing the subjects and content of what information you would like to receive. The subjects and content include:
* Adoption
* Community Services
* Permanency
* Administration/Child Welfare Systems
* Prevention
* Safety
* Well Being
* Workforce & Training

For more information regarding subscriptions to E-lert!, please visit http://www.childwelfare.gov

Child Maltreatment 2010

The Child Maltreatment 2010 report summarizes child abuse statistics that have been submitted by states during 2010. All 50 states have mandated child abuse and neglect reporting laws. The Child Maltreatment 2010 report provides information such as, how the data is used and collected, where the data is available, who reported child maltreatment, and much more.

For more information, please visit the website of http://www.acf.hhs.gov/.

(continued) 2012 Social Work Month

NPR will be running sponsorship messages March 5th–17th reminding Americans who social workers are and what they are doing for the nation’s wellbeing.

The Social Work Media Awards features social workers in media depicting stories of how they contribute to others while showcasing hope, resilience, and public policy. NASW will shine a spotlight on these stories and give out awards which will be announced in April 2012. For more information visit http://www.socialworkersspeak.org.

World Social Work Day is March 20, 2012. On this day, the final Global Agenda on Social Work and Social Development will be submitted to the U.N. Secretary General. For more information visit the website of the International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) at http://www.ifsw.org. We hope that you have the time to get involved and show people why social work and social workers truly matter!