Special Year for the Social Work Community

Dr. Nancy Chavkin
A Message from the Director

March was National Social Work month and the theme this year was Social Work Paves the Way for Change. Celebrated each March, the month is an opportunity to emphasize the social work profession and its contributions.

The theme was chosen because the National Association of Social Workers will celebrate its 60th anniversary this year. The National Association of Social Worker’s goal during March and throughout the year is to focus on how the social work profession has brought about positive social changes and improved the lives of families and individuals for the past six decades.

Special projects provided by the National Association of Social Workers include an interactive timeline chronicling the history of the profession, testimonial videos of members of NASW, and a journalism project featuring professional journalists documenting how social workers help people overcome challenges. All of these resources and information can be found at: http://www.socialworkers.org/pressroom/swmonth/2015/default.asp

Hail and Farewell

With a new spring semester, we have a new group of Title IV-E students. The Center would like to welcome Sheronda Davis (MSW), Kimberly Marquez (BSW), and Selene Mendez (MSW), from region 8 in San Antonio. New students from region 7 in Austin include Gabrielle Bernal (BSW) and Selena Soriano (BSW). The Center extends a warm welcome to them.

The Center would also like to congratulate the fall 2014 graduates that include Gabriela Cortez (BSW) from region 7, Valerie Diaz (MSW), Ana Garcia (MSW), Yesenia Moreno (MSW), and Laura Wright (MSW), all from region 8.
Title IV-E Graduate Receives Recognition from Unit

Title IV-E graduate, Jason Robbins received recognition for his leadership from his entire unit during an October quarterly staff meeting. Jason is a region 8 kinship supervisor with specific emphasis on rural areas. Jason’s unit took the floor and one by one thanked him for his quality of work, leadership skills and guidance. Jason is a double graduate from the Title IV-E program, receiving his BSW in summer 2007 and his MSW in summer 2012. Jason is appreciative of the Title IV-E program saying, “I’m very thankful for the many tools I learned in my MSW Administrative Leadership education which have enhanced my ability to provide quality supervision. The Title IV-E program alleviated the financial barriers to this achievement and provided a sense of value in my career with CPS.”

DFPS Caseworker & Foster Parent Trainings

Save the dates! Make sure to mark your calendars for the upcoming training workshops on trauma for DFPS caseworkers and foster parents. Workshops will be led by Dr. Angela Ausbrooks, and Dr. KeriAnne Moon from the School of Social Work at Texas State University.

**Dates and Locations:**
- April 10, Trauma Workshop (9:00am-12:15pm), 2500 N Main St., Belton, Tx
- April 25, Trauma Workshop (9:00am-12:15pm) 2306 Leary Lane, Victoria, Tx

To register for the workshops or if you have questions, send an email to: Trainings4E@txstate.edu. Attendees earn 3.0 CEU credits.

Upcoming Professional Development Events

The 6th Annual Education Reach for Texans meeting is being held June 2-3, 2015 in Dallas. The convening spotlights the postsecondary education environment youth face who are coming out of foster care. CEUs and contact hour certificates are available. More information can be found at: [www.educationreachfortexans.org/convening.html](http://www.educationreachfortexans.org/convening.html)

The National Association of Social Workers/Texas state conference will be held in Galveston on November 12-14, 2015 with the theme *Social Work Paves the Way for Change*. Registration for the conference is scheduled to open July 15th. More forthcoming information can be found at the NASW Texas Facebook page and the [NASW Texas website](http://www.naswtx.org/?page=CE_NASWTX#TLSW).

Texas Law for the Social Worker will be hosted by NASW/Texas. The six hour workshop will bring you up to speed on the rules and laws impacting social work practice. The workshops will take place April 25th in Dallas and May 16th in Houston. More information can be found at: [http://www.naswtx.org/?page=CE_NASWTX#TLSW](http://www.naswtx.org/?page=CE_NASWTX#TLSW)
Child Welfare Outcomes Report Data

Child Welfare Outcomes is a report that is published annually by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The Child Welfare Outcomes Report Data website has recently been updated with data for 2013. The website features a report builder that allows users to select specific state data, choose how the data is displayed and view State comparisons. Data for each state includes maltreatment, demographics, foster care, permanency/adoption, race/ethnicity, age, outcomes and context data. Although data for 2013 has yet to be published in report form, the most recent report for 2009-2012 is available. 2013 data and the most recent report can be found at: http://cwoutcomes.acf.hhs.gov/data/overview

National Child Abuse Prevention Month

This April, National Child Abuse Prevention Month is celebrating the theme “Making Meaningful Connections” to help protect children, prevent abuse and promote the well-being of families. Throughout April and the year, communities are encouraged to share child abuse prevention strategies. The website includes the 2015 Prevention Resource Guide: Making Meaningful Connections, tip sheets, activity calendars, a prevention video gallery and an online media toolkit. For more information, go to: https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/preventionmonth/