NATIONAL Awards Program
2006
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

National Awards Reception

2006 NASW Annual Leadership Meeting
Hyatt Regency – Capitol Hill
August 5, 2006
The Social Worker of the Year Award honors a member of NASW who exemplifies the best of the profession’s values and achievements through specific accomplishments. In honoring the Social Worker of the Year, the Association highlights superb accomplishments in the practice of social work in the member’s career. Only NASW chapters may nominate candidates in this category.

The Lifetime Achievement Award is given to a member of NASW in celebration of a lifetime of accomplishments. This award recognizes the best social work values, contributions to the profession, and extraordinary achievements as demonstrated in an individual’s distinguished career. NASW chapters and individuals may nominate candidates in this category.

The Public Elected Official of the Year Award recognizes outstanding service and contributions of an elected official who has shown leadership in the formulation of public policy, particularly policies that affect social justice, health care, education, civil and human rights, and social work practice. NASW chapters, individuals, and social welfare organizations may nominate local, state, or national elected officials for this award.

The Public Citizen of the Year Award honors an outstanding member of the community whose accomplishments exemplify the values and mission of professional social work. The award recipient is not a social worker. NASW chapters, individuals, and social welfare organizations may nominate candidates in this category.

The International Rhoda G. Sarnat Award is given to an individual, group, or organization that has significantly advanced the public image of social work. This monetary award is administered by the NASW Foundation and is made possible by an endowment generously established by distinguished social worker, Rhoda G. Sarnat, LCSW, and her husband, Dr. Bernard Sarnat. NASW chapters, individuals, and social welfare organizations may nominate candidates in this category.
WELCOME REMARKS

Elizabeth J. Clark, PhD, ACSW, MPH
Executive Director
National Association of Social Workers
President
NASW Foundation

AWARDS VIDEO PRESENTATION

AWARDS PRESENTATION

Elvira Craig de Silva, DSW, ACSW
President
National Association of Social Workers

AWARD RECOGNITIONS

Darlene Grant, PhD, LCSW

Social Worker of the Year Award

Barbara Boatwright, ACSW

Lifetime Achievement Award

The Honorable Jennifer Granholm
Governor of the State of Michigan

Public Elected Official of the Year Award

Anthony Gillespie

Public Citizen of the Year Award

Merl C. Hokenstad, PhD, ACSW

NASW Foundation

International Rhoda G. Sarnat Award

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

INTERNATIONAL RHODA G. SARNAT
AWARD PANEL

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Chair

Fran Franklin, PhD, LCSW
Carol Marcusen, LCSW, BCD

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Elaine Congress, DSW, ACSW, LCSW
Laura A. Phillips, BSW
Leina H. Yamamoto, MSW
DARLENE GRANT, PhD, LCSW
Social Worker of the Year Award

Through her innovative research and dedication to students at the University of Texas at Austin, Dr. Darlene Grant has added a fresh face to what social work is and what it can be. She is a professor, mentor and social work advocate who pushes the profession forward.

For the past seven years, Dr. Grant is the principal investigator on a unique research project called Troop 1500: Girl Scouts Beyond Bars. The local arm of a national outreach project by the Girls Scouts of America, Troop 1500 seeks to develop and cultivate a bond between incarcerated women and their children. While these women have been victims of abuse and drug use, Dr. Grant reaches out to them by going beyond her role as a researcher to be a role model for these women and their children. In addition to her research, she travels to the Gatesville prison once a month to visit with the incarcerated mothers and supports local Girl Scout events. Her research has been profiled in People Magazine and is the subject of a PBC documentary entitled Troop 1500.

Dr. Grant is an associate professor at the University of Texas at Austin’s School of Social Work and serves as the Associate Dean of Graduate Studies. In her courses, she emphasizes a commitment to social justice, client empowerment, utilization of supervision and mentoring, and a dedication to the profession. For her students, she creates a collegial classroom environment to explore their responsibility to address sensitive and controversial issues. She also became a resident expert as the school faced difficult issues related to the recruitment and retention of students of color.

Through her expertise and commitment to cultural competence she was selected Chair of the Task Force on Racial Respect and Fairness at the University of Texas at Austin. Her leadership has brought about significant advances toward the achievement of greater diversity and attention to issues of racial equity. It is her social work skills that provide her with the framework in which to address cultural diversity issues, social justice and recruitment of students of color.

Prior to joining the faculty of the University of Texas at Austin, Dr. Grant spent many years working with children and families, providing case management and psychotherapy services to those facing chemical dependency issues.

With her vibrant, limitless commitment to social justice and to the social work profession, Dr. Grant has furthered the profession and has ushered in greater changes for the betterment of society. For this reason it is with great honor that the National Association of Social Workers recognizes Darlene Grant, PhD, LCSW as the 2006 Social Worker of the Year.
In her long career as a social worker and advocate, Barbara Boatwright has found a way to amplify her voice through the social work profession to advocate for change – one person, organization and community at a time.

At a time when it was not common for women to have professions and be activists, Ms. Boatwright graduated from the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work in 1949 and began her career as both a professional social worker and an advocate for women in politics.

Ms. Boatwright began her career in school social work in Illinois, but after a move to Iowa found her niche in clinical social work with a community mental health center and in private practice. She also was an adjunct professor at the University of Iowa School of Social Work for 31 years, ushering students to professionals committed to social work values, ethics, and action.

As an avid activist in Iowa politics, Ms. Boatwright advocated for female and African-American candidates. She felt that many of the problems her clinical clients presented in therapy often had roots in the politics of the community and the policies of state agencies. She felt it was her duty as an educated woman to stand up for those with no political voice. She is well known in Iowa for her lobbying efforts on behalf of health care reform, pay equity and adequate, accessible human service programs.

In 1984, she was instrumental in the passage of Iowa’s first social work licensing law. Upon her retirement from private practice in 1993, she co-founded the Democratic Activist Women’s Network (DAWN) to elect pro-choice Democratic women to the Iowa Legislature.

In 1999, she received the inaugural Barbara Boatwright Political Action Award, created by the NASW Iowa Chapter to honor her involvement with social work and political advocacy.

Ms. Boatwright served for 14 years at Children and Families of Iowa as a caseworker, supervisor and program manager and for another 16 years as a psychiatric social worker with the Central Iowa Mental Health Center, with a private practice on the side. She is widely known for her work to empower women and to advocate for children.

For many years, Ms. Boatwright taught and provided clinical supervision to graduate social work students at the University of Iowa. Her passion for political action transferred to many of her students – three of whom currently serve as members of the Iowa legislature.

Ms. Boatwright has created change in a societal context with great significance – change that creates possibilities for each person and for society as a whole. It is with great pride that we confer the Lifetime Achievement Award on Barbara Boatwright, MSW, ACSW.
GOVERNOR JENNIFER GRANHOLM
Public Elected Official of the Year Award

GOVERNOR JENNIFER GRANHOLM has made a public commitment to improving the quality of life in Michigan communities, protecting the most vulnerable populations and addressing social issues in a way that strengthens the state. She has shown a dedication to improving the areas of concern for the social work profession for the citizens of Michigan.

Gov. Granholm began her career in public service as a clerk for U.S. Judge Damon Keith on the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals. She was a federal prosecutor in Detroit and Wayne County Corporate Counsel. She was elected as Michigan’s first female Attorney General and was elected as the first female governor of Michigan on November 6, 2002.

Since her election, she has dedicated her governorship to improving Michigan communities and bolstering the social safety nets for its citizens.

Gov. Granholm fought to protect vital support for poor families by vetoing a 4-year lifetime limit for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), ensuring this critical support for those in need.

In order to promote and strengthen early childhood development in Michigan, she formed the Early Childhood Investment Corporation to support early childhood development and to increase licensing requirements in day care.

Gov. Granholm has expanded health care coverage to uninsured Michiganders and has enrolled tens of thousands of children in health insurance through the Healthy Kids and MiCHILD programs. Additionally, she initiated the development of the Mental Health Commission to rebuild the state’s mental health system.

In 2004, Gov. Granholm recognized and honored the importance and professionalism of social workers by signing Social Work Licensure in Michigan legislation into law.

Through her focus on improving Michigan communities, she has implemented the comprehensive Jobs Today, Jobs Tomorrow plan, which includes creating jobs and increasing training and educational opportunities for Michigan workers.

Gov. Granholm has a dedication to reducing crime in Michigan through Project S.A.F.E. STREETS, which has removed more than 1,650 fugitives from neighborhoods. Additionally, she signed Arianna’s law, which supports and protects children in child abuse cases.

For her tireless dedication to improving the lives of the citizens of Michigan, Gov. Granholm is the consummate advocate for improvements to education, health and mental health services, and increases to opportunities for the most vulnerable. The National Association of Social Workers is honored to name Governor Jennifer Granholm as the 2006 Public Elected Official of the Year.
ANTHONY GILLESPIE
Public Citizen of the Year Award

Despite personal risks and community concerns, Anthony Gillespie established an agency that brings attention and resources to the issue of HIV/AIDS among gay African American and Latino men.

Mr. Gillespie is the Executive Director of Brothers Uplifting Brothers (BUB), Inc., a nationally recognized model HIV/AIDS social service agency that provides testing, counseling, outreach, education, technical assistance, case management and subsidized housing for HIV-positive individuals living in NW Indiana. The target population of BUB is African American and Latino men who identify as homosexual or bi-sexual.

Many members of this at-risk group do not feel comfortable seeking services in mainstream agencies. Mr. Gillespie has lessened the double stigma of HIV/AIDS and being gay that has led many individuals in the community to hide their orientation or illness. BUB is the only agency in northern Indiana and one of only three agencies in the state that provides services for this at-risk and under-served population.

Mr. Gillespie is also the founder of the HIV Planning Council of NW Indiana. This council created a comprehensive resource directory for the region. Through the council, he also coordinated a region-wide needs assessment to identify the housing needs of HIV-infected and affected community residents.

Most importantly, Mr. Gillespie has raised the HIV awareness among African American and Latino GLBT population in Indiana and nationwide. He is a tireless advocate and champion for the housing and services needs for low income persons. His work truly embodies the spirit of a social worker, humanitarian and pioneer.

NASW is proud to present Anthony Gillespie with the 2006 National Public Citizen of the Year award.
Since M.C. “Terry” Hokenstad, PhD, ACSW began his social work career, he has been working nationally and internationally to advance the provision of services to the elderly and to enhance doctoral program development.

Dr. Hokenstad is the Ralph S. and Dorothy P. Schmitt Professor at the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences at Case Western Reserve University. He also serves as a Professor of International Health in the School of Medicine.

Long active in international relations, Dr. Hokenstad served as a consultant to the United Nations and was a member of the United States Delegation to the U.N. World Assembly on Aging in 2002. In 2000, he was appointed by the Secretary General of the United Nations to serve on a Technical Committee responsible for drafting the International Plan of Action on Aging. He served as the chair of the International Committee at the National Association of Social Workers.

Dr. Hokenstad’s role in international aging is to promote the involvement of social workers in gerontological services at the international level. He noted that while the elderly in developing countries have traditionally relied upon their extended family for support, demand is growing for more organized supportive services by governmental and non-profit agencies.

In addition to his work with the United Nations, Dr. Hokenstad has focused much of his attention to doctoral program development, both domestically and internationally. He has worked with government agencies and universities in Canada, Hungary, the Philippines, and Sweden, as well as the United States, in the establishment and evaluation of PhD programs in social policy and social work.

He has had a large impact on the education of social work professionals. Serving as the president of the Council on Social Work Education from 1986-1989, he directed the overhaul of the council’s policymaking structure and stabilized the organization’s budget.

Dr. Hokenstad received his professional social work degree from Columbia University and his PhD from Brandeis University, Florence Heller Graduate School for Advanced Studies in Social Welfare. He is recognized as an NASW Social Work Pioneer® by the NASW Foundation.

For his work in advancing the public image of professional social work, both nationally and internationally, the National Association of Social Workers Foundation is proud to confer the International Rhoda G. Sarnat Award on M.C. “Terry” Hokenstad, PhD, ACSW.
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