

THE SOCIETY FOR SOCIAL WORK LEADERSHIP IN HEALTH CARE

President's Message

Hello Members! I last wrote in early spring and so I want to catch you up on some of our most recent activities.

Board Action

Plans for 2022/2023

July 15, 2022, your Board of Directors held an extended planning meeting to map out the strategic initiatives for 2022/2023. We reflected on the critical value of a professional membership society and our passion to ensure the sustainability of health care social work for the future. In particular we outlined a plan to specifically focus on:

- **Chapters**
- **Sustainability**
- **Communication/marketing**

Engagement frames all of this...and we hope that you will engage with us and each other, to share your unique expertise and talent, as this member organization needs your voice.

Our Name

You may recall, in 2019, the Board of Directors supported a proposal to change the name of the Society; dropping the word "Leadership" from the title. I will share that I was, at the time, a part of the convened Strategic Planning Committee and supported that change. There was a natural disruption to the implementation of the name change during the pandemic, as other issues took the forefront. The unplanned disruption gave us an opportunity to think more deeply about that decision.

The origin of the Society (several names ago in the early 1960's) was, in fact, a group of mostly (managers/directors) in health care social work. However, over the years, we continued to prioritize inclusivity with membership welcomed and open to ALL those in healthcare social work. We appreciate now more than ever the critical importance for social workers to be seen, as LEADERS. In fact, the work of the future is going to require more human skills in all domains and the empathy and perspective which social workers bring to our workplaces is essential.

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SIGN UP NOW



Sign up for the
SSWLHC
newsletter here.

President's Message con't

I want to call attention to the word “leadership”. We aren’t the Society for Social Work Leaders in Health Care; we are the Society for Social Work Leadership in Health Care. Leadership isn’t a person, it is an action, a way of being, a way of showing up for each other, for patients and families, for teams and for our organizations. It is a way of showing up as advocates empowered by skills and knowledge and compassion and belonging to help point the way for the work.

Benjamin McBride, a pastor and advocate for social justice, says, “The wrong first question is What do we need to do? The right first question is who do we need to become?”

Who Do We Want to Become?... I believe we want to be healers in those spaces and that entails not only the care of patients and families, but the collective healing for those with whom we work. I also believe that we know in our bones that it also means that we are called to provide Leadership in the work. If not us, then who? I am pleased to share that your Board of Directors has decided to retain the name: The Society for Social Work Leadership in Health Care.

Operations

The search for a new Association Management Company or Executive Director is on track and on the timeline set forth by the Search Committee and Boards of both the Foundation and the Society. We have had proposals submitted in response to the RFP. The Search Committee will review the proposals and interviews will begin. We remain grateful for the interim administrative leadership of Shawna Kates and Scott Ferguson and the conference support of Carol Maxwell and Susan Guth who have partnered with Chris McLaughlin and the Conference Committee. We will bring you updates as this moves forward. In the meantime, if you are aware of an Association Management Company or other who may be interested in the RFP, please let Shawna or Scott know.

Nashville, Here We Come!

The conference in Nashville is in October! The general schedule is out now and will continue to be updated for specific information. We are very excited about the variety of speakers scheduled for this year. The conference committee, including the abstract reviewers, were intentional about inclusivity and we welcome social workers from a variety of practices, backgrounds, and areas of focus. We are working hard to make ensure you are welcomed, comfortable, and enriched by the opportunity to be together. We all feel the impact of seismic social shifts in laws, in local and national governance and in the economy. We understand that, as social workers, we are also all affected by these macro issues. Perhaps for you, companionship with others who best understand the complicated intersectionality of our work within health care, the fall conference may be a welcomed opportunity to be together. We look forward to seeing you there!



President's Message con't

My Reflections:

Our sense of Belonging has been challenged in so very many ways over the past several years. Literal and emotional distance on top of scarcity (of time, money, energy and more) has left many to wonder; how they fit into our culture, in our organizations, in our work. There is cognitive dissonance when we show up as healers in spaces that are structurally built within a capitalist system to privilege profit over healing. Our interprofessional partners are stressed by this same dissonance.

Social Workers in healthcare spaces, ALL healthcare spaces, show up as healers. We know from working with patients and families just how much that healing and caring matters during their times of need. Social Workers are an essential partner in all teams, at all levels and we are committed to working with Society members to identify and deliver on the specific support that you need and want.

Yours,
Jeanette Foster, MSW, LISW-S

PODCAST FROM DR. AUTUMN ASHER BLACKDEER

Dr. Autumn Asher Blackdeer will be one of the keynote speakers at the upcoming SSW:HC Annual Conference!

"[I]f we're talking about why do we need to decolonize schools of social work, we are increasingly teaching future social workers to help our clients put Band-Aids on their situations, right, to advocate for them to deal with these oppressive systems and structures that they live in, right? Where is the advocacy for dismantling these harmful systems of oppression beyond voting? You know, how can we get social work to actually focus on dismantling these systems of oppression instead of helping our clients cope with them? That's really the question."

Listen to the **Aug. 16th Podcast** [here](#): From the Univ. of Buffalo School of Social Work.



Dr. BlackDeer is a racial equity scholar with an emphasis on Indigenous tribal sovereignty and is deeply committed to decolonizing the academy.

Upcoming SSWLHC Events, Webinars

Leadership Institute 2022

Don't miss it! The SSWLHC Leadership Institute is once again being offered in person, in conjunction with the upcoming SSWLHC Annual conference in Nashville in October. Our experienced Faculty, Brigitte Baker and Lee Lucas, will introduce current leadership thinking and strategies to equip participants to take on the leadership challenges in today's healthcare world. Kouzes and Posner, in their well known publication, *The Leadership Challenge*, maintain that "leadership is a measurable, learnable and teachable set of behaviors". Take this opportunity to develop into the kind of effective and inspiring leader your organization needs by attending this 1.5 days of leadership training. CEU's are provided. Cost for members is only \$349 and for non-members \$399.

Register now for this extraordinary in-person experience on October 15 - 16, 2022.



Maine SSWLHC Chapter

The Maine Chapter of the Society For Social Work Leadership in Healthcare proudly presents:

Essential Ethics for Navigating Care: Social Determinants of Health

DATE: October 7th, 2022 | TIME: 8:30AM-4:00PM

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!!
[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!](#)

Pricing:

- Student: FREE
- SSWLHC Member: \$60.00
- Non-Member: \$90.00

Join us to discuss:

- Historical Aspects and Determinants of Current Practice
- BIPOC Social Work EBP
- Advancing SDOH in the Healthcare Setting

CONTINUING EDUCATION INFORMATION:
6.0 Category A Continuing Education hours for licensure have been applied for through NASW NH.

This event is virtual and will be held via Zoom Webinar

SAVE
-THE-
DATE
October 7th.
8:30 - 4:00
pm

For more information: sswlhcmaine@gmail.com

Upcoming SSWLHC Events, Webinars

Register Now for the Healthy People 2030 Spotlight on Health Webinar

The Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (ODPHP) is pleased to announce that it will be hosting a Spotlight on Health webinar titled Healthy People 2030: Civic Engagement as a Social Determinant of Health. This webinar will take place on Wednesday, August 24 from 1:00 to 2:00 EDT. To register, please visit the event page.

The presenters will provide an overview of the research that supports the inclusion of civic engagement as a social determinant of health and related Healthy People 2030 objectives. The slate of presenters includes:

- RDML Paul Reed, MD, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health, Director Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
- Nico Pronk, PhD, President, HealthPartners Institute and Chief Science Officer, HealthPartners
- Dawn Hunter, JD, Director, Southeastern Region Office, The Network for Public Health Law
- Somava Saha, MD, MS, Founder and Executive Lead, Well-being and Equity in the World, and Executive Lead, Well-being in the Nation Network

To register, please visit the Spotlight on Health Healthy People Webinar registration page.

**Wednesday
August 24
from 1:00
to 2:00
EDT.**



Healthy People 2030



OASH

Office of
Disease Prevention
and Health Promotion

Resources for Health Social Workers

The SSWLHC Community Forum (formerly the List Serv) has been active with interesting and thought-provoking discussions from members. The community forum allows members to ask questions, make announcements and/or initiate discussion.

Recent topics include:

- CHA Staffing Benchmarks
- Blood Products for Patients who are Jehovah's Witnesses
- Finding Residential Resources for Pediatric Patients with Specialized Feeding Needs
- PICU Staffing Ratios



Log into your member account and go to Community Forum for answers!

- How do I join the Community Forum?
- How do I contribute or add a discussion forum to the Community Forum?
- How do I edit/change my subscription settings for the Community Forum?

Check out the 5 part video series of three social workers talking about race & inequity. There is also an extensive list of resources on the website.

Reflections 2020: Deepening the Discussion, Informing Action.

www.seriousillnessconversations.org/conversations



www.seriousillnessconversations.org



ESPEC will be one of the sessions at the upcoming SSWLHC Conference in Nashville!

Educating Social Workers in Palliative and End-Of-Life Care

This new and unique learning opportunity includes 8 on line learning modules, 2 virtual in-person sessions, leadership workshops and ongoing mentorship opportunity.

The cost is \$325 or \$250 for NASW members and you can receive up to **14.5 CE's**.

ESPEC Register here