

March 9, 2005

Hello Everyone,

I have procrastinated long enough in writing another web letter. Since August – that is really bad – even for me. The ground hog did not see his shadow so “spring is just around the corner”. That is wonderful news for all of us, so let’s hope it is true.

This has been a busy year but hopefully you have been reading the Updates and checking out the web site to keep informed of WSSA activities. The Executive Committee is working hard to keep the Wisconsin Social Services Association thriving. With the budget cuts and workload issues, we feel we need to concentrate on offering an excellent Conference and trainings at a reasonable cost.

In January, WSSA sent out 500 letters to Supervisors throughout the state requesting they fill out a short survey regarding training needs. We received over 120 responses and they were excellent. If you are interested in viewing this information, click on the training survey results link on the home page.

The Executive Committee is in the planning stage of setting up four “regional” trainings for the fall of 2005 and the spring of 2006. We will be using suggestions from the training needs surveys for these. We should have definite dates and topics by the conference in June. Best of all we are hoping to offer these regional trainings at little or no cost.

The Executive Committee will be meeting with a WCHSA representative on April 29 to discuss common issues and WSSA will have a vendor table at the WCHSA conference in May. Our hope is that the two Associations can work together to become a “louder” voice benefiting everyone involved with the social/human services field.

The conference brochure is finished, and has been added to the conference web page. Please take a moment to check it out. The Conference Planning Committee has done an excellent job and there is something for everyone. The line up of speakers and topics is outstanding.

I want to thank each member of WSSA for your continued dedication to Wisconsin Social Services Association. It has been my pleasure and honor to serve as your President this past year. Please contact me with any concerns, comments, or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Marjean Sutherland, President
Wisconsin Social Services Association.