

Greetings from your President! May 2007

As my term is drawing to a close I look back with great pride about what we have accomplished and look ahead and forward to the future. I have learned so much from my colleagues on the Executive Committee and others who have stepped up in to leadership roles in WSSA.

Some of the highlights of this year:

- ES/ EBD Committee begin meeting again with Mary Grell-Waukesha Co. accepting the role of chairperson.
- Ann Oven-Waukesha Co., Colleen Roethe-Kenosha Co. and Linda Sweet-DHFS worked tirelessly at creating, maintaining and utilizing our email liaison distribution list, which allows us to almost instantaneously get information out to our agency liaisons for posting and distribution.
- Marjean Sutherland coordinated the True Colors Training in the fall and continues to maintain and update our association website.
- Cheryl Bahr-Shawano Co. who has facilitated the process of having Governor Doyle sign the proclamation designating the week of April 23, 2007 Economic Support and Wisconsin Works Specialists Week.

I apologize that I am not able to by name recognize all the work that each member does but challenge each of you, the members of WSSA to whenever possible thank, recognize and acknowledge each other for the work that each of you do!

The thing I respect most about WSSA is that we are an organization who if we all worked as individuals would accomplish very little but when we put our resources together the possibilities are endless. We are professionals who have the passion for the field of social services and compassion and empathy for the people we serve. We have a wealth of resources beyond anyone's wildest imagination. No one person can do it all, I have witnessed many people try to do it all and basically wear or burn themselves out.

A member of a professional organization gives you the opportunity to network, draw strength from each other and to lift each other up to be stronger than we would be had we gone it alone. As with any year of one's life there are challenges and thanks to so many individuals within WSSA I have made new connections, drew strength from members of WSSA and can only hope that I may have lifted someone else up.

I am so looking forward to this year's conference and appreciate the time and work that our conference planning team has put into this years event. I always look forward to our Conference as a time to learn from each other, connect with old friends and make some new ones and most of all a time to celebrate the work that all of us have done, currently do and will continue to do!!

It has been an honor to serve as your President and to continue to be a part of WSSA.

Paula Hintze

WSSA President '06-'07