

UPDATE

Wisconsin Social Services Association Newsletter

Winter/Spring 2014



President's Message

Warmest Greetings to the WSSA Family!

I am currently serving as your 2013-14 WSSA President and I want you all to know what a privilege it is for me to serve the members of WSSA in this capacity. My predecessor, Christy Duhr, served this Association with much diligence and humility. She never asked someone to do something that she wasn't willing to take on herself and always gave accolades to everyone else. She set the bar high and will most certainly be a tough act to follow! She had a vision for WSSA and a passion to see it succeed. I too have a passion about this organization and will try my hardest to accomplish the goals I have set for this year. The goals I felt that were important and most pertinent are:

- Increase membership by 10%
- Increase attendance at the Annual Conference

(continued on page 2)



"Ahoy Mateys"

WSSA Annual Conference 2014

June 25 & 26, 2014

Wisconsin Dells, WI

Arrrrggghhhh! The 77th Annual WSSA Training Institute and Conference will be Wednesday June 25 and Thursday June 26, 2014. The Training Institute will be held at the Kalahari in Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin. "Chart ye course to join us!" Rooms can be booked now by calling the Kalahari at 608-254-3314.

We are once again planning to offer you a treasure of informative workshops at conference. The following areas are being targeted for workshops: Workforce Development, Aging & Disability Services, Child Protective Services, Economic Support, Personal Development, and more!!

We have been "sailing the seas" in search of great speakers and workshops that are sure to be bountiful. Information regarding the conference will be out by late March. If you have an idea or area that may be of interest, or the name of a great speaker(s) we would love to hear from you. Please call or e-mail one of the co-chairs below.

The theme chosen for this year's conference is "No Matter the Direction we are Still on Course". On Wednesday of our event we will honor our Past Presidents ("Buccaneers") during our luncheon and that evening will be our traditional "theme" night dinner. We plan on a "swashbuckling good time". Thursday, June 26, we will have our Awards Luncheon to recognize our "hearties". Start thinking of who you are going to nominate now! Watch the WSSA website for further information. That address is: www.wssa.ws

If you have ideas for workshops or speakers or would like to serve on the Planning Committee ("there's a spot on our *team* just for you"), please contact either of the names listed.

Sherri Arnold, *Co-Chair*
sherri.arnold@kenoshacounty.org
(262) 697-4549

Missy Hubacher, *Co-Chair*
melissa.hubacher@kenoshacounty.or
(262) 697-4560



President's Message - (continued from page 1)

- *Promote involvement in WSSA*
- *Encourage others to serve in a leadership capacity*
- *Make the 77th Annual Conference a success!*

These goals can only be accomplished with help from YOU! I believe this organization has value to the worker and that value can only be strengthened by our numbers and what we can offer those on the front lines. We are currently planning the 77th Annual Conference and we expect to have a wide array of topics that should appeal to everyone. Talk to your supervisors and directors now...let them know how valuable WSSA is not only to you but your co-workers as well.

We all know that with most things in life, if you want something you need to ask for it...the worst thing that will happen is the answer will be “no”. I am asking all of you to consider becoming more involved and invested in your organization—WSSA! Consider serving on a committee, asking a colleague to join or even just nominate a co-worker for a well-deserved award. We have so much talent and creativity working in the Human/Social Services arena. Additionally, we are still in need of a President-Elect, this is an important position in our organization. I know that there is a time commitment to the position, however, it is more than worth your time and everyone on the Executive Committee are more than willing to lend a hand or ear when needed. I can tell you that the position is a rewarding one. If you are interested, please contact one of the Executive Committee members or e-mail me at sherri.arnold@kenoshacounty.org.

In closing, I believe this quote...“The quality of a person’s life is in direct proportion to their commitment to excellence, regardless of their chosen field of endeavor” by Vince Lombardi says it all. I encourage each of you to participate in any way you can in WSSA. If you have feedback, suggestions or if you are experiencing issues at your agency and may want to see a workshop or training on it, try to e-mail one of the Executive Committee members and we will do what we can to help. By becoming involved I believe you will benefit, the Association will benefit and in the end, those we serve will reap the rewards.

Sherri Arnold

AMENDMENTS TO WSSA BYLAWS

The annual WSSA business meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 25, 2014 during the WSSA Conference at the Kalahari Resort, Wisconsin Dells (time to be announced later). All WSSA members are encouraged to attend. The Constitution & Bylaws Revisions and Resolutions Committee will present two amendments to the Bylaws. One amendment is to change the eligibility of WSSA membership to include private human/social services agencies. The second amendment will, if approved move the Finance Committee responsibilities to the Executive Committee.

Plan on attending the annual WSSA business meeting!

*Submitted by: Jaci Fuller
Constitutions and Bylaws Revision & Resolutions Committee*

DID YOU KNOW?

WSSA has a website — it is www.wssa.ws

Our website has up-to-date information regarding the Association. It has the Constitution and Bylaws, the *UPDATE* newsletter, committee information, award information, conference news and registration information, training opportunities and much more! It is the most convenient way to obtain the latest information.

For comments, ideas or questions regarding the content of the website, contact us via the “**Send Us A Message**” feature found on the website.



DO YOU HAVE A CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR E-MAIL?

All changes in Name, Address, Phone or E-mail should be submitted to:

Sherri Arnold

8600 Sheridan Road

Kenosha, WI 53143

Phone: 262-697-4549

E-mail: sherri.arnold@kenoshacounty.org

Please be advised that many of our publications will now be sent via e-mail instead of US Mail.



WE NEED YOUR NOMINATIONS FOR STATE OFFICERS

Nominations are now being accepted for the WSSA State offices of President Elect, Treasurer and Historian. The Treasurer and Historian are for two years and the President Elect is a three-year term. The terms of office of each of the officers shall commence on the first day in July, 2014. You must be a current member of WSSA to nominate someone or submit your name and all nominees must be current members.

Please consider volunteering for this worthwhile organization. Become part of a team working together to provide valuable networking connections throughout the state, high quality/low cost training opportunities and advocates on behalf of people who serve customers of social services agencies.

Volunteer for one of the positions above or nominate someone! For more information, please contact:

Sherri Arnold, WSSA President 2013-2014

8600 Sheridan Road

Kenosha WI 53143

e-mail: sherri.arnold@kenoshacounty.org

Phone: 262-697-4549



The deadline to submit nomination forms is April 2, 2014.

Included in your *UPDATE* is an Interest/Nomination form along with the descriptions of the offices. You may go to the WSSA website www.wssa.ws for more information or you may contact a member of the Executive Committee.

DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

(Must be current WSSA members)

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT-ELECT: (Three-year term consists of President-Elect, President and Past President) The President-Elect shall be the representative of the President on matters referred to him/her and shall upon request of, or in the absence of the President, preside over meetings of the Annual Conference or Executive Committee.

TREASURER (Two year term)

The Treasurer shall receive all funds collected from all sources. The Treasurer shall record all receipts and disbursements and shall make a complete financial report at the Annual Conference and such other reports as may be required by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall pay by check, drawn funds, bonds, and securities in a bank approved by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall be compensated for duties related to the assumption of the office as recommended and approved by the Executive Committee.

HISTORIAN (Two year term)

The Historian shall be responsible for compiling and maintaining the historical record of the Association and will have authority to request from the officers and committee chairpersons information necessary for the performance of the office. The Historian shall find storage space for the historical files. This shall be done with the approval of the Executive Committee.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT (INFORMATION ONLY): The President shall be the Chief Executive of the Association. The duties shall be to see that the provision of the Constitution and Bylaws, the regulations and policies established there under are observed. He/she shall be the presiding officer at the Annual Conference and all other WSSA meetings.

The President shall have the authority to designate the President-Elect to act in place of the President at public gatherings, at the Annual Conference and at Executive Committee meetings. In the event that the President-Elect cannot accept any assignment, the President may appoint another representative.

The President may make appointments to committees of other organizations with approval of the Executive Committee. Appointees may be discharged after filing a report with the Executive Committee or by action of the President. The President shall be compensated for duties related to the assumption of the office as recommended by the Finance Committee and approved by the Executive Committee.



NOMINATE SOMEONE FOR AN AWARD!

It's time to start thinking about nominating someone you know for a WSSA award! The purpose of awards is to acknowledge and recognize individuals who exhibit leadership and have demonstrated outstanding performance in their position and have made an unique contribution in the social/human services field.



The WSSA awards available include the following: Distinguished Service, Excellence in Economic Support, Excellence in Social/Human Services, the Gayl Farris Outstanding Clerical, County Board member, Membership Liaison and Rookie of the Year. In addition, WSSA members can be nominated at any time during the year for Honorary Life Membership, with awards presented at the annual conference. Individuals who have been of significant benefit to the Association but pending loss of their eligibility for regular membership due to retirement are eligible for Honorary Life.

Per an Executive Committee decision, an individual does not have to be a WSSA member to nominate someone and the person nominated does not have to be a WSSA member for the following awards: Excellence in Social/Human Services, Excellence in Economic Support, and County Board.

In addition, WSSA offers up to two scholarships of \$500 each to WSSA members who are pursuing their career and education in the social/human services field and meet the criteria. A conference grant (for a total of \$500) is also available to WSSA members who attend a State conference which is related to human/social services programs and relevant to the applicant's current job duties.

The Friend of WSSA award was established in 2000 to recognize an agency or organization that has demonstrated exceptional support for the goals and objectives of WSSA. It acknowledges contributions made by a county, agency or organization through participation, lending of its members of time or other resources to sustain the ideals of WSSA.

Criteria for awards and scholarships as well as nomination forms can be found on the WSSA website: www.wssa.ws For more information, please contact an Executive Committee member.

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS: April 2, 2014

Send nomination forms to: Sherri Arnold, WSSA 2013/14 President
8600 Sheridan Road
Kenosha, WI 53143
sherri.arnold@kenoshacounty.org

"I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination." ~Jimmy Dean

WISCONSIN SOCIAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION INTEREST/NOMINATION SHEET

For the State Association positions of **President-Elect, Treasurer and Historian**
(Must be current WSSA Member)

I am interested in **servicing WSSA** in the capacity of _____

I am employed by _____

My present position is _____

My past State and Local Association positions are _____

NOMINEE INFORMATION:

I would like to **nominate** _____

For the position of _____

Their work address and phone number is _____

YOUR INFORMATION:

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail Address _____

Phone _____

All nominees will be contacted.

Return form to: Sherri Arnold, 2013/14 WSSA President
8600 Sheridan Road
Kenosha, WI 53143
e-mail: sherri.arnold@kenoshacounty.org

WE PLAYED OUR CARDS AND EVERYONE WAS A WINNER!

~ 2013 Annual Conference Recap ~

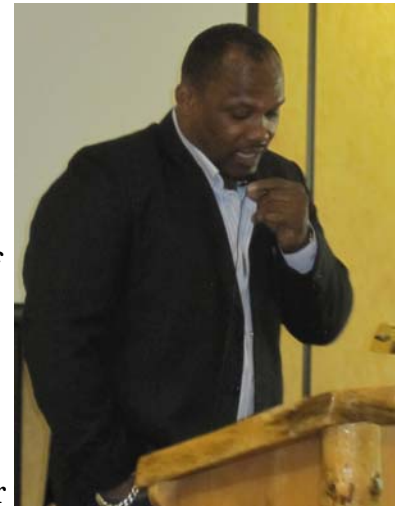


The 76th Annual WSSA Training Institute and Conference held on June 19 & 20, 2013 was a success. The conference was held at the Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells...our group was full of “MVP’s”. Our keynote speaker, William Henderson was great. His address to the group was meaningful and he even stayed for everyone to take pictures with him.

We had speakers from all different areas including W2, social work, stress, IM, case management and customer service. Without a doubt Tom Prete’s Self Employment Workshop was the “trophy winner” of the break-out sessions. Though, all of our speakers were wonderful and the reviews of their workshops were excellent.

We had the opportunity to honor our “hall of famers” (Past Presidents) on Wednesday of the conference. We had a number of them in attendance at the conference. Our theme night dinner was fun as usual and everyone seemed to be having a good time at conference.

On Thursday, we acknowledged those who have led their “teams” to greatness and deserve recognition for their contributions to the field of Human and Social Services. This year WSSA was able to honor two individuals with the Human/Social Services Award: Kate Chambers of Lafayette County and Nikki Lui from Goodwill Industries in Kenosha County; one individual for the Excellence in Economic Support Award: Claudia Volpentesta of Kenosha County; and the Friend of WSSA Award went to Goodwill Industries of Southeastern Wisconsin for their support of WSSA. In addition, Dave Turk was the recipient of the President’s Award. Congratulations to all the Award Winners!



Submitted by: Sherri Arnold



WSSA Executive Team Members with William Henderson (What a Team!)

PAST PRESIDENTS LUNCHEON

The Past Presidents luncheon was held on Wednesday, June 19, 2013 at the 76th Annual WSSA Conference and Training Institute. Past President Jayne Carroll (2011-2012), introduced the Past Presidents in attendance. They included:



L to R: (*Front*) Jaci Fuller (2008/09); Marjean Sutherland (2004/05); Helain Anderson (2000/01); (*Back*) Dave Turk (2009/10, 2010/11); Jayne Carroll (2011/12); Paula Harvot (2006/07); Kevin Loef (2005/06)

2013 AWARD WINNERS

The Awards luncheon was held on Thursday, June 20, 2013. WSSA President Christy Duhr presented the following awards (Pictured):



L – R: Dave Turk (Dynamic Workforce Solutions) President’s Award; Christy Duhr (Retired, Richland County) Past President Plaque; Kate Chambers (Lafayette County) Social/Human Service Award; Claudia Volpentesta (Kenosha County) Excellence in Economic Support Award; Nikki Lui (Goodwill Industries in Kenosha County) Social/Human Service Award; Kevin Loef (Goodwill Industries of SE WI, Inc.) Friend of WSSA Award

CONGRATULATIONS

As an added incentive for completing evaluations at the 2013 Annual Conference, the Conference Planning committee put everyone's completed evaluation into a hat and chose two evaluations to receive a gift card to the venue of their choice.



Congratulations to:

***Nikki Lui and Katie Roen who
each received a
\$25 gift card to Kohl's.***

Thank you to all who turned in evaluations, we will continue to move forward with the feedback we received.

NEEDED: PRESIDENT- ELECT

The President Elect position for 2013/2014 is presently vacant. This is a three year term consisting of President Elect the first year, President the following year (2014/2015), and Past President the third year. The President-Elect is the representative of the President on matters referred to him/her and shall upon request of, or in the absence of the President, preside over meetings of the annual conference or Executive Committee.

As a member of WSSA, please consider volunteering for this position. Now is the time to get involved! If you would like more information or are willing to serve, please contact the 2013/14 WSSA President:

Sherri Arnold
8600 Sheridan Road, Ste 122
Kenosha, WI 53143
262-697-4549
e-mail: sherri.arnold@kenoshacounty.org

UPDATE

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Update is published by the Wisconsin Social Services Association.

Submit articles or letters to:

Sherri Arnold

Goodwill Industries

8600 Sheridan Road

Kenosha, WI 53143

E-mail: sherri.arnold@kenoshacounty.org

Phone: 262-697-4549

SEEKING VENDORS FOR CONFERENCE

Is there a certain vendor you would like to see at the 2014 Annual WSSA Conference to be held June 25 & 26 at Kalahari Resort, Wisconsin Dells? I would appreciate your suggestions as we prepare for the conference. Please contact me at:

Jaci Fuller
7493 North Road
Eau Claire WI 54701
e-mail: tomnjaci58@gmail.com

GOING BACK TO SCHOOL? SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE!



Each year, WSSA offers up to two scholarships with a total of \$1,000 (\$500 each) to WSSA member. Applicants must be a current member in good standing with WSSA and a WSSA member for at least two years. The following is the criteria:

SCHOLARSHIPS: Up to two scholarships, for a total of \$1,000 (\$500 each) are available to be awarded to WSSA members who are pursuing their career in social/human services at the undergraduate, graduate or associate degree level. The applicant must be a Wisconsin resident and employed by a social/human services agency for at least two years. The applicant must be enrolled in a college or technical institute for a minimum of six credits. The application form must be signed by the applicant and submitted with two letters of recommendation. The winner is presented a certificate of scholarship at the annual WSSA conference and a check is sent to the scholarship recipient upon verification of enrollment in an institute of higher education.

CONFERENCE GRANTS are available to WSSA members (one or more conferences) for a total value of \$500. Criteria includes: all state and national conferences will be considered, conference content must be related to human/social services programs, the conference must benefit the individual, agency and WSSA, and conference money is to cover conference registration, hotel, meals and other travel expenses up to \$500 (minus agency contribution).

For conference grants, the applicant must be a current member in good standing with WSSA and a WSSA member for at least the past two years. Responsibilities of the recipient of a conference grant include: any additional costs or encumbrances of attending the conference beyond what are awarded by WSSA, approval by county or agency of employment to attend and participant will be required to give WSSA an overview of the conference attended and provide an article to be published in the Update.

Application forms are available on the WSSA website www.wssa.ws For more information, contact a member of the Executive Committee.

WSSA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014

PRESIDENT	Sherri Arnold Goodwill Industries/Kenosha County 8600 Sheridan Road, Suite 122 Kenosha, WI 53143	Phone: 262-697-4549 <i>sherri.arnold@kenoshacounty.org</i>
PRESIDENT-ELECT	<i>Vacant</i>	
PAST PRESIDENT	Christy Duhr 20618 Buckta Hill Road Richland Center, WI 53581	Phone: 608-585-2119 <i>Christy_Duhr@salvationarmy.org</i>
TREASURER	Missy Hubacher Goodwill Industries/Kenosha County 8600 Sheridan Road, Suite 122 Kenosha, WI 53143	Phone: 262-697-4560 <i>melissa.hubacher@kenoshacounty.org</i>
SECRETARY	Fran Snippen 102 Harborview Drive Washburn, WI 54891	Phone: 715-373-2619 <i>fran.snippen@gmail.com</i>
PARLIAMENTARIAN	Jaci Fuller 7493 North Road Eau Claire, WI 54701	Phone: 715-225-3978 <i>tomnjaci58@gmail.com</i>
HISTORIAN	Holly M. Jackson 207 W. Chippewa Street Cadott, WI 54727	Phone: 715-271-3476 <i>jacksonhm@voyager.net</i>

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

EASTERN	<i>Vacant</i>	
NORTH CENTRAL	Julie Van Dahm Wood County DSS P. O. Box 8095 Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495	Phone: 715-421-8613 <i>jvandahm@co.wood.wi.us</i>
NORTHLAND	<i>Vacant</i>	
SOUTHEASTERN	Kevin Loef Goodwill Industries/Kenosha County 8600 Sheridan Road, Suite 122 Kenosha, WI 53143-6508	Phone: 262-697-4521 <i>kevin.loef@kenoshacounty.org</i>
SOUTH CENTRAL	Briana Turk Richland County HHS 221 W. Seminary Street Richland Center, WI 53581	Phone: 608-649-5721 <i>briana.turk@co.richland.wi.us</i>
WEST CENTRAL	Jaci Fuller 7493 North Road Eau Claire, WI 54701	Phone: 715-225-3978 <i>tomnjaci58@gmail.com</i>

Wisconsin Social Service Association
Membership Application
Membership Year: July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

County _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Employer _____

Job Title/Area of Work _____

Membership Type:

New

Renewal (member previous year)

Membership Category:

Regular... \$25.00

Student... \$12.50

Contributing... \$35.00+

Employer Type:

County

State

University (for students)

Other _____

Return Application & Dues to:

Missy Hubacher
8600 Sheridan Road
Kenosha, WI 53143