SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK ASSOCIATION DELEGATE ASSEMBLY REPORT 2017

This report is due electronically to Rebecca Kunkel at rkunkel@sswa.org by 5pm on 7/14/17. Please be prepared to share one item, from the report below, during the DA that you wish to receive to feedback.

STATE ORGANIZATION:
A. State Association Officers and Contact Information: CONNECTICUT ALLIANCE OF SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS, a network of NASW-CT.

Please list the names of the officers, legislative chair, website manager and social media manager their contact information, including email address, and length of term of offices.

Steve Karp is the full-time Executive Director of NASW CT. MSW interns under Mr. Karp’s supervision at the NASW CT office will be working closely with our Network. For example, a summer intern prepared the graphs indicating key conference topics noted in the school social work survey. (See Survey discussed below.)

1. PERMANENT COMMITTEES /OFFICERS OF THE STATE ASSOCIATION:

a. The STEERING COMMITTEE is comprised of four members from the former state association ( CASSW) including the State Consultant for School Social Work:

Ms. Regina G. Karas, CT. Liaison to SSWAA, rgnkaras@gmail.com ;
Anthony Ciancetti- Regional Rep., Tonylcsw@hotmail.com
Dr. Esther Howe- howee1@southernct.edu
Scott Newgass, State Consultant, scott newgass@ct.govct.us

B. ALSO THE FOLLOWING:

Jessica Abate, jet1977@gmail.com
Jennie Aden, jaden22@comcast.net
Tracy Andersen, TAndersen@wallingford.k12.ct.us
Laura Abbatemarco, lauramsw@hotmail.com
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Bill Mecca, wmecca@trumbullps.org
Madalena Monti, mmonti@weathersfield.me
Natalie Pacelli, patriciapaganelcsw@gmail.com
2. **State Conference (Y or N and date for 2017):** None planned as yet.

3. **Organization’s Website address:** See naswct.org and scroll down to pages on website for school social network

4. **Newsletter (Y or N, frequency and type, electronic or paper, of circulation):** Yes-quarterly

5. **Facebook Page Address (Y or N. If yes, please list the page address):** NASW has a facebook page, but school social workers do not have one as yet.

6. **Twitter Handle (Y or N. If yes, please list the page address):** No

7. **Blog address (Y or N. If yes, please list the page address):** No

**B. NUMBER OF STATE ASSOCIATION MEMBERS:** Of 600 surveys sent via email on 2/1/2017 to all school social workers in CT, 197 CT. School Social Workers answered an eleven question survey of school social worker concerns. Questions inquired about interest in attending a state-wide conference; suggestions for workshop topics; best times and fees for workshops, etc.

**C. NUMBER OF SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS IN THE STATE:** The survey was emailed to 600 school social workers identified on the Connecticut State Dept. of Education’s email list.

**D. ANNUAL BUDGET AND DUES STRUCTURE:** Alliance members are not required to pay NASW dues; steering committee members are expected to do so per the terms of the merger agreement between the former CASSW and NASW CT.

**E. State Evaluation:**

1. **CURRENT STRENGTHS OF STATE ASSOCIATION:** Because of the enthusiastic response to the statewide survey distributed last winter, we now have 182 names of people who wish to be contacted about workshops and other activities of the CT. Alliance of School Social Workers. There is administrative support for administrative tasks previously taken on by board members. Beginning in the fall of 2017, Mr. Karp will be supervising an MSW intern who will be assigned some of the outreach communications directed by the Steering Committee for follow-up.

2. **CURRENT WEAKNESSES OF STATE ASSOCIATION:** There is an ongoing challenge of recruiting members who will assume responsibilities for planning a conference or workshop to be implemented by the Alliance.

3. **FUTURE PLANS OF STATE ASSOCIATION:**

   a. A mini-workshop will be planned by the Steering Committee. Topics, days, and times will be set based upon input in the aforementioned SSW Survey

   b. The Steering Committee has already set meeting dates for Sept. and November. It has been suggested that the October, December, and February Steering Committee Meetings be combined with a Meet N’Greet in various regions around the state.

   c. **A save-the-date** will be sent out via email in early September for the first Meet ‘N’ Greet being arranged by Tony Ciancetti, Steering Committee Member, on Thursday, October 25th. Benefits of affiliating with the CT. Alliance of School Social Workers and with SSWAA will be part of a brief presentation with a focus on the importance of advocating for the profession in these challenging budget years.

   d. The CT. School Social Work toolkit developed by CASSW’s board in 2015-2016 will be updated with a new logo to reflect the new School Social Work Association structure.
4. **FUTURE THREATS TO STATE ASSOCIATION:** The ongoing challenge of school districts restricting out-of-district professional development continues to impact the feasibility of offering an all-day state conference. Strategies for promoting school social work positions was identified by 193 out of the 197 respondents to the ssw survey.

5. **HOW CAN SSWAA ASSIST YOUR STATE?** The Steering Committee would appreciate recommendations for speakers available to speak on school absenteeism, school anxiety, and evidence-based practice. These are the key topics identified for workshop/conference topics.