

# NASW-NYS WESTERN DIVISION

NASW-NYS Western Division Newsletter

Volume one, Issue three, March 2024

*Never think that what you have to offer is insignificant.  
There will always be someone out there that needs what you  
have to give. ~Anonymous~*

## Message from the Division Director

You might be surprised to be getting a new edition of our newsletter so soon. I am going to try to put out the newsletter every other month so that it is not so lengthy. I hope this will make it easier for you to read and to keep track of when we will be having events. Please provide me with any feedback that you have that would make the newsletter better meet your needs. Here is the news and the updates currently going on in the Division and the Chapter. As always, you can contact me any time at [naswnyswestern@gmail.com](mailto:naswnyswestern@gmail.com).

Thanks for all you do,

Elaine

## Welcome to New Members!!

We welcomed three new members in January, one BSW student and two LMSW/LCSW members, and eight in February, two MSW students and six LMSW/LCSW members!!

## **Social work month events at Buffalo State University**

Panel Discussion, 3/7/2024, 6-9 pm, on Social Work Career Opportunities, in 215 Bulger Communications Center, Buffalo State University, Please Park in Lots I32, I34, I35 and I36 and I 37- Campus. RSVP: [fitzpajm@buffalostate.edu](mailto:fitzpajm@buffalostate.edu) by Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>. All are welcomed!

Documentary presentation, “*Strong in the Broken Places,*” and discussion at BSU set for 3/12/24 at 6 – 8pm. Students from the other social work schools have been invited to attend. All are welcomed!

## **Presented CEU events sponsored by the Western Division**

January presentation on *Strengths and Challenges of Leveraging Technology in Various Social Work Settings* by Dr. Christine Rine. Outcome: 25 attendees, great evaluations

February presentation on *Animal assisted treatment in social work* by Dr. Yvonne Eaton-Stull. Outcome: 74 attendees, great evaluations

## **Upcoming CEU Live Webinar events sponsored by the Western Division**

March 14th – 9:00-10:30 am by Dr. Elaine Maccio, Louisiana State University School of Social Work, *LGBTQ+-Affirming Behavioral Health Services*

April 11th – 9:00-10:30am by Dr. Mandy Fauble Director of Clinical Care Services at UPMC Western Behavioral Health at Safe Harbor, Erie, PA, *Suicide Prevention & Intervention: What's Working*

May 9, 2024 – 9-10:30 am by Dr. Braden Linn, Pennsylvania State University School of Medicine, *Advances in Treatment Research for Alcohol Use Disorder*

June 13, 2024 – 9-10:30 am by Dr. Steven Haladay, Edinboro University, Department of Social Work, *Is social work ethical?*

July 15, 2024 – 2-5pm Dr. Berg Miller, Buffalo State University, Department of Social Work, *Intersectionality 7/15/2024, 2-5 pm*

September 2024 by Ms. Kerry Causey, LCSW, University of Denver, School of Social Work, *Trauma-informed supervision from both sides of the desk*, (day and time TBD)

October 2024 by Ms. Tanya Rhodes Smith, MSW, Instructor in Residence and Director, Nancy A. Humphreys Institute for Political Social Work, University of Connecticut, School of Social Work, *Political social work*. (day and time TBD)

November 9, 2024 – 9-10:30 am by Dr. Mark Frank, University at Buffalo, Department of Communication, *Deception detection*

## **Live, in person CEU presentations sponsored by the Western Division**

Khristopher Decker, LCSW from Evergreen Healthcare. (Details TBD). To be held at the First Presbyterian Church, Explore Buffalo Office, 1 Symphony Circle, Buffalo.

Seriously consider taking a tour of the church with an Explore Buffalo docent after the presentation. The church is beautiful, and the stained-glass windows are amazing. Let me know if you are interested in the tour and I will set it up.

Also planning for live CEU presentations in the fall and spring at Fredonia State University and Niagara University to encourage training for members outside of Erie County. Stay tuned.

## Chapter Chats

Presented Chapter Chat – by Alisa Chirico, MSW student at the University at Buffalo, School of Social Work on Environmental Social Work. Great presentation and great feedback.

Upcoming Chapter Chats – in the plans. Let me know if you would like to present one.

## Member events for Social Work Month

*Strong in the Broken Places* film discussion 3/21/2024, watch the film on your own at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gOSGc3dIM6Y> and then join the discussion, 7:45-8:30 pm  
*Half the Sky* book discussion 3/26/2024 7-8:30 pm

Possible May Breakfast at Dash's Market, 1770 Hertel Ave, Buffalo, NY at the lovely second floor public space (elevator available). A survey was sent out asking for your best days and times to drop by and have a tasty breakfast from Dash's large selection. Please return the survey if you haven't done so already.

## Meet & Greet events

1<sup>st</sup> Meet & Greet: 1 attendee, thanks for coming Bridget!

2<sup>nd</sup> Meet & Greet: no attendees.

3<sup>d</sup> Meet & Greet: 3/7/24 from 6-7pm on Zoom

Then quarterly in June, Sept., and December through 2024

Please drop in for the hour or for a few minutes to say hello and chat.

## Student Survey

Fifteen responses so far. Wide range of good days and times but Saturday mornings seemed best, mixed requests for live vs. virtual, wide range of topic interests most said they would attend a social event, **what could we do? Please send me your ideas!** The survey was sent out again the week of February 5, 2024.

Elaine Rinfrette, PhD, LCSW-R, NASW-NYS Western Division Director

Steering Committee Members: Sylvia Gold, LCSW-R, Cheryl Eberl, LCSW-R, Cheryl Mills, LCSW-R, Jesse Grossman, LCSW-R, BCDCSW