

ASTPHSW

Association of State and Territorial Public Health Social Workers
Affiliate of Association of State and Territorial Health Organizations (ASTHO)
www.astphsw.org

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In this issue ...

- ASTPHSW Board
- President's Message
 - 1st Annual Doris Barnette Lectureship in Public Health Social Work Practice – Fall 2009
- Informational Tidbit
- Membership News
- List Serv
- Newsletter Coordinator Notes

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President's Message:

Happy New Year ASTPHSW Members!

Although the past year was one of budget cuts, lay-offs, and furloughs for many state agencies and businesses across the nation, we must not “throw up our hands and call it quits!” This New Year promises to continue the economic challenges, but there are also some opportunities for Public Health. We are on the threshold of the passage of the Health Care Reform Bill. The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) is beginning the process of working with pilot states in preparing them for voluntary national accreditation and to foster quality improvement in state public health. ASTHO has implemented a Branding Public Health project to help the public to better understand the role, activities and value of state Public Health. ASTHO is convinced that in creating a strong campaign around Branding Public, it will 1) Improve public health visibility; 2) Mitigate the public health workforce shortage; 3) Enhance the public health advocacy power; 4) Create public support for public health activities and 5) Improve policymaker support for public health. As Public Health Social Workers, it is critical that we are actively involved in the planning and implementation of these innovative projects.

While I recognize that the daunting economic picture has agencies and individuals re-thinking their spending and cutting back where possible, I encourage you to not sacrifice your ASTPHSW membership. Please make membership renewal a priority when you receive the notice. Also, encourage your colleagues to join. Membership applications can be downloaded from the website at www.astphsw.org.

We have two new members to join the Executive Board this year as Members-at-Large. They are Maury West, Alabama State Social Work Director and Pauline Moss, Louisiana State Social Work Consultant. We are pleased to add them to the Board. They are replacing Patricia Scott from Louisiana who retired last year and Mary Philip from California who recently retired December 31, 2009. Patricia will remain active with ASTPHSW by working with Barbara Stelly on the Membership Services Committee. Mary will be visiting her family in India for a couple of months before she decides what new path to take in retirement. Congratulations Mary, We wish you well! Felisha Dickey, MCH Consultant in Florida, has agreed to head the new website committee. If you have any suggestions as we continue to develop the site please email them to Felisha at felisha_dickey@doh.state.fl.us.

2010 promises to be filled with challenges and opportunities. Let's continue to bring our Public Health Social Work Colleagues along as we face the challenges and find the opportunities!

First Annual Doris Barnette Lectureship

Kathy Burk, LCSW

Dr. Claude Earl Fox, MD, MPH, Director, Florida Public Health Institute; Professor, Miller School of Medicine, University of Florida was the Inaugural Lecturer for the Doris Marie Barnette Lectureship during the Fall Colloquium at the University of Southern Mississippi (USM) School of Social Work. This Lectureship was the “brainchild” of Dr. Fox in honor of his longtime friend and employee, Doris Barnette.

In March 2008, at the Association of State and Territorial Public Health Social Workers (ASTPHSW) Annual Conference in Alabama, Dr. Fox partnered with ASTPHSW to raise the \$10,000 necessary to develop the Lectureship at Doris’s Alma Mater, USM School of Social Work. He volunteered to match the funds raised, dollar for dollar until the goal had been reached. Fortunately, after approximately \$6,000 had been raised through the joint efforts of ASTPHSW and Dr. Fox, later in 2008 a generous donor from California, Sara Turner, whose husband was a social worker, while visiting USM heard about our efforts for creating the Lectureship, donated the final \$4,000 to make it a reality.



ASTPHSW is honored to be affiliated with the development of this Lectureship, because Doris was “one of our own.” She was always available to attend our conferences, and keep Public Health Social Work in the mainstream of public health. Doris had worked in Mississippi at the local level, first at for the Band of Choctaw Indians in Philadelphia, MS, then for the MS Department of Health in the MS Delta and finally as Director of the Family Planning at the state level before moving to Alabama. Doris was a great supporter of Public Health Social Work. Her impact on public health will not be forgotten.

Below is a dedication to Doris that was published in The Journal of Public Health Management and Practice a few years ago:

Dedication: Doris Marie Barnette (1945-2005)

During her more than 20 years of public health career, Doris M. Barnette personified the great public health manager. Although a social worker by training, she was involved in public health management through her work with local, state and federal agencies as well as with NGOs. Her vision helped shape development of the UNC Management Academy for Public Health and her involvement helped guide its progress in the early years. Doris began her career with the US Public Health Service as a national health service assignee with the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians and rose to be the Deputy State Health Officer for the state of Alabama and Principal Advisor to the Administrator of the federal Health Resources and Services Administration. Her wit, insight, and practical approach to everyday public health problems will be greatly missed by the public health community.



(Dr. Claude Earl Fox)



(Kathy Burke, Dr. Claude Earl Fox, and Virginia Adolph)



(Ramona Beardanin; Dollie Hambrick; Patricia Terry, Judy Barber; Kathy Burk; Wanda Jackson; Virginia Adolph, Dr. Claude Earl Fox)

Informational Tidbits

From Barbara Stelly, North Carolina

The [Temporary Assistance for Needy Families](#) (TANF) program instruction, released on December 28, 2009, provides information on ways that Federal TANF funds (including TANF Emergency Fund awards issued as a result of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009) and State MOE funds can be used to assist individuals from eligible families in need of short-term mental health and substance use treatment services.

Membership News

A reminder to renew your ASTPHSW membership -- Our membership year began in January 2009. Beginning this year, there is an organizational membership category. You may wish to see if the organizational option is a better fit for your agency. To renew your membership, or get more information, contact [Kathy Burk](#) or go to www.astphsw.org.

ASTPHSW Listserv

Our Listserv is sponsored by the University of North Carolina School of Social Work. To communicate with ASTPHSW membership, simply send an email to: astphswmembership@listserv.unc.edu. There are a few “rules of the road,” but the setup is designed to be user friendly. If you have questions, please contact our Listserv Manager: [Jennie Vaughn](#), MSW (919) 962-8352

Note: ASTPHSW Board meets by conference call the last Friday of each month.

NEWS, NEWS, NEWS WANTED!

Members and friends, I have received input of ideas and information to place in our newsletter. This is great and helps me to be creative as well. If you have not shared your ideas or news, it is never too late to do so. Don't overlook activities or information that others would enjoy learning about. Of course, we are always wanting to hear of any personal events/successes that you may wish to share with the membership.

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