

NASW HOUSTON

August / September 2013

NASW– Houston Members Attend State Conference

Houston was well-represented at the NASW-Texas conference over Labor Day Weekend in Austin. 1000 social workers from across the state and neighboring states gathered in Austin for two and half days of continuing education, meetings, and a little bit of fun!



NASW-Houston members Shubhra Endley and Sandra Lopez with NASW-Texas Executive Director, Vicki Hansen

Did you miss this year's conference? Join us next year in San Marcos!

Congratulations

to our own

Jillian Bissar for being appointed the State Conference Chair for 2014-2016! This is a huge opportunity and responsibility and we know you will represent us well!



Hidden in Plain Sight- Human Trafficking CEU

Please join the League of Women Voters–Houston and NASW-Houston for a lunch-time brown bag discussion of "modern day slavery"- Human Trafficking.

Friday September 13, 2013

Sosa Community Center

1414 Wirt Road Houston, Texas 77055

11:30– 12 pm: Networking

12 pm– 1:30 pm: Program

Speakers:

Linda Geffin, Senior Assistant County Attorney and Harris County Deputy Sheriff Javier Perez

1.5 CEUs available (\$20/NASW members and \$30/non-members and FREE if you do not need CEU)

A Glance at the Year Ahead!

September 13
Hidden in Plain Sight
Human Trafficking
CEU

September 20
NASW/GCSW
Back to School Social

October 12
Walk for Mental
Health Awareness

November 7
Affordable Care Act
Brown Bag Discussion

December 6
NASW Holiday Party

Join us for a back-to-school social!

Friday September 20

6-8 pm

Berryhill Baja Grill

3407 Montrose Blvd

Hosted by NASW– Houston and the UH GCSW Student Association

Networking and Noshing
for social work students and professionals

Stay Connected



Contact us at:

naswhouston@gmail.com

Member Spotlight



**BRITTANY BURCH,
S-LCSW, LCDC**

Clinical Social Worker and
LIFE Program Coordinator
The Montrose Center

**Social Work Area of Prac-
tice:** Mental Health, LGBT,
Addictions

How long have you been in the field? 9 years

When did you first become interested in social work? In high school, I volunteered in the student counseling center and I remember talking to one of the counselors and thinking "I want to do *that*."

What is the most important thing a client has taught you? I have learned many things but probably the most important one is to never underestimate someone's capacity for change and growth, and that the human spirit is resilient beyond imagination.

Share a quote that is especially meaningful to you: "Prayer is the activity of holding another in your heart with the hope of their well-being in all things, and in your well-being in relation to them" - a quote I found in my mother's handwriting after she died.

How do you practice self-care? Leave work at work—at least most of the time. And I have just picked up

origami, which is completely relaxing, challenging, creative and magical!

Complete the sentence: Social workers inspire hope by holding onto hope when others have lost their ability or willingness to do so.

Anything else you want to tell us about yourself? I'm so grateful to have a career that I'm committed to and passionate about. I am so inspired by my colleagues and honored to be a part of the lives of my clients.

THE MONTROSE CENTER

Mission: The Montrose Center empowers our community, primarily gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender individuals and their families, to enjoy healthier and more fulfilling lives.

Programs/Services: We serve the LGBT & HIV community in a variety of ways including individual, couples, family and group counseling; case management; specialized programming for LGBT kids 13-20; groups, peer counseling and a congregate meal program for seniors 60+. We also do a lot of education and outreach to the community.

Describe a time that exemplifies why you do what you do:

I worked with an intersex client who was severely depressed and suicidal and had been the victim of abuse. He was terrified of the physical exam required to be admitted to the hospital. His gratitude for my willingness to sit with him for hours during the admittance process was exactly why I do what I do. I was there to guard against further abuse while empowering him to take action toward self-care.

Would you like to nominate a fellow NASW Member for next month's spotlight?

They will receive a featured space in the newsletter to talk about what they do and the agency they work for. Please e-mail Chloe Walker at cwalker@lrmlaw.com by Friday, September 20th with your nomination's name, e-mail, and/or phone number.

Seeking Applicants for State Leadership Position

NASW—Texas is seeking a Nomination and Leadership Identification Committee Branch Chair from the Houston Area. Email januarileo@yahoo.com if you are interested in being appointed through June 2014.

OneVoice Texas Membership

Did you know that NASW-Houston is a member of One Voice Texas? As a member of NASW—Houston, you are allowed to attend any work group or general meeting and you receive a membership discount at their events.