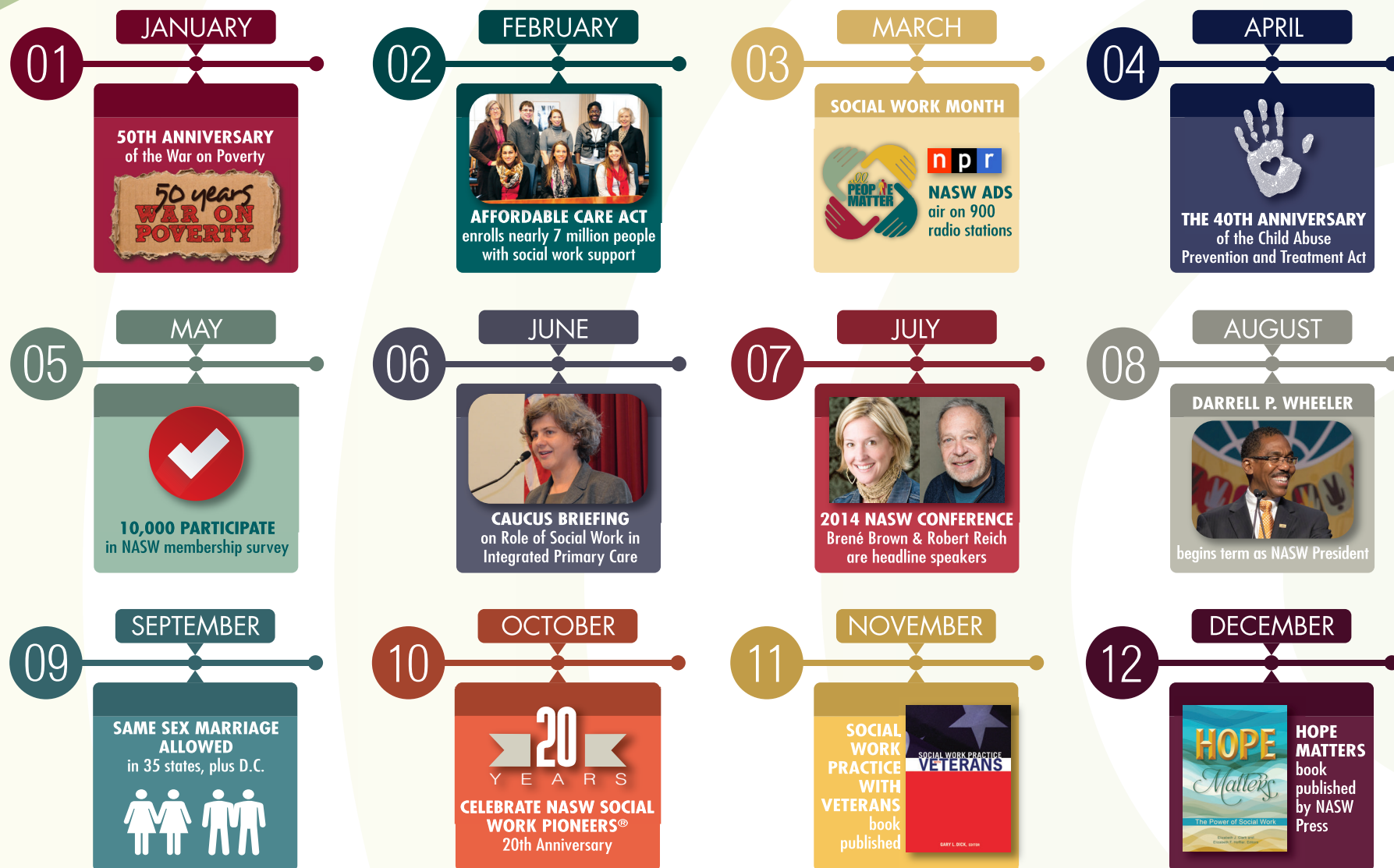


NASW welcomes the new year with a quick look back at organizational milestones and important social changes in our country.

2014

A YEAR IN REVIEW



NASW

IN ACTION

“As we strive to meet 21st century health and human service challenges, it’s exciting to think about expanding strategies that work, funding research that explores new solutions, and creating strong partnerships to ensure impact across communities.”



Angelo McClain, PhD, LICSW, is CEO of the National Association of Social Workers. He was previously commissioner for the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families and vice president and executive director at Value Options New Jersey. McClain began his career as a child welfare case manager in Texas.

- » NASW sponsors symposium to support the bipartisan Voter Rights Amendment
- » Clinical social workers begin using new PQRS measures to file Medicare claims
- » NASW participates in a Families USA symposium on the Affordable Care Act
- » NASW helps pass suicide training legislation in Washington state
- » New NASW Commerce Bank Visa, LifeLock, Office Depot and Constant Contact benefits are added
- » NASW International District helps members who move overseas stay connected
- » Capitol Hill Briefing: “Achieving Racial Equity: Social Workers as Agents of Change”
- » 2014 NASW Media Award Winners include The New York Times, HBO and Daily KOS
- » NASW secures state hiring preference for BSWs and MSWs in Connecticut
- » President Obama signs the Protecting Access to Medicare Act on April 1
- » NASW helps pass social work title protection legislation in Ohio
- » A special commission to advance social work macro practice convenes at NASW
- » NASW co-sponsors APA’s Children’s Mental Health Summit in Washington, D.C.
- » Capitol Hill Briefing: “Ensuring the Rights of Parents with Disabilities and their Children”
- » NASW Member Douglas Brooks named White House director of AIDS Policy
- » NASW National, Chapter and Foundation award recipients honored at national conference
- » International Federation of Social Workers Conference held in Melbourne, Australia
- » NASW co-sponsors the SAMHSA Voice Awards in Hollywood
- » Social Justice Brief: “Unaccompanied Migrant Children”
- » NASW Foundation awards \$80,000 in grants, fellowships and scholarships
- » NASW Assurance Services introduces cyber liability insurance protection for members
- » NASW AIDS Spectrum training grant is renewed for 19th year
- » NASW PACE Board finalizes 160 political endorsements for midterm elections
- » 26 states and the District of Columbia implement ACA Medicaid expansion
- » NASW consolidates and renovates its headquarters to reduce expenses

TOP 10 TRENDING TOPICS IN THE NASW NEWS – 2014

The NASW News covered a variety of topics in 2014, from feature stories that examine suicide prevention efforts and school violence solutions to a series of articles about social work's roles with the Affordable Care Act implementation and a look back at the past 50 years of the War on Poverty. Here, we highlight the Top 10 stories from last year.



1 SOCIAL WORK SELF CARE

Compassion fatigue, or secondary traumatic stress, is a combination of physical, emotional and spiritual depletion associated with caring for clients in distress. Social workers are more vulnerable than ever to develop compassion fatigue because of the ever-increasing demands on staffs to do more with less. Experts in this area discuss the ways social workers can practice self-care.

2 GERIATRIC SOCIAL WORK

About 10,000 baby boomers in the United States will turn 65 each day until the year 2030, and by 2020 one in six Americans is projected to be age 65 and older. That means up to 70,000 geriatric social workers will be needed to help address the aging needs of baby boomers. We discuss some of the initiatives taking place to train social workers to better meet these needs. Among their many roles, social workers are an important part of helping family caregivers of older adults navigate through health and mental health networks.

3 SUICIDE PREVENTION

NASW member Chris Gilchrist talks about her passion for raising awareness and lifting the stigma surrounding depression and suicide by organizing the annual Out of the Darkness walk in her community. News readers also learned about macro efforts to reduce suicide deaths, such as the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention's research strategy.

4 PRIVATE PRACTICE

Clinical social workers faced significant changes in 2014 that affected their practices. We examine these changes and offer resources for more information. The 2014 changes include:

- » A revised CMS-1500 form
- » International Classification of Diseases, 10th Edition, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM)
- » The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 5th Edition (DSM-5)
- » Requirements to file quality measures from the Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS)

5 THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

Social workers play important roles in the implementation of President Obama's health care legislation, which has provided health insurance coverage to millions of Americans who were previously uninsured. The News ran a series of articles in 2014 about the ACA. Some of the highlights include social workers as navigators who help people choose the right health care plan and sign up for coverage; and NASW chapters who urged their states to approve Medicaid expansion. We also made sure readers were aware of deadlines to sign up for coverage under the ACA.

6 CHILD IMMIGRATION

By last fall, as many as 60,000 children had migrated from Central America to the United States in less than a year, most often fleeing violence and economic turmoil in their own countries. This influx caused a humanitarian crisis in 2014 and prompted President Obama to ask Congress for nearly \$4 billion to help address the crisis. The News examined how social

workers advocate for these children and assist them through the maze of immigration court and application processes once they arrive in the United States. Social workers can also be instrumental in helping these minors find legal representation and other services.

7 ANIMAL-ASSISTED THERAPY

Austrian neurologist Sigmund Freud was known to have his dogs present during client sessions, and an animal's soothing presence has long been noted for therapeutic properties, says Ellen Winston, co-founder of Animal Assisted Therapy Programs of Colorado. Animal therapy can mean two different things, she says. There is the volunteer type of animal therapy where individuals bring their pets into various settings — such as hospitals and schools — to lift people's spirits. The other type is focused on social workers, counselors and therapists who include animals to aid a therapy session. We talked with social workers who use dogs and horses in their therapy sessions, and they explain the benefits of doing so.

8 SCHOOL VIOLENCE SOLUTIONS

Headlines announcing the latest incidents of school violence have become common, and calls for solutions have been open to debate. Social workers in this area told the News it's important to focus on the mental health aspect rather than promoting a fortress mentality to protect students from violence. Social workers are urging more programs and resources that provide early mental health screenings and treatments for school children, and they also promote the value of a community approach to aid troubled students before they feel the need to act out in violence.

9 SEX TRAFFICKING OF MINORS

Sex trafficking of girls — and less often boys — under the age of 18 has existed for years, but social workers and others who specialize in this area say it's becoming more common as demand grows. This feature details who the most vulnerable youths are, what signs social workers can look for, and what they can do to help. Experts say social workers can advocate for better care in the foster care system, where many sex-trafficking victims are found, and for social policies to keep minors from becoming victims of sex trafficking.

10 THE WAR ON POVERTY

Since President Lyndon Johnson declared a "War on Poverty" in 1964, social workers have been on the front lines fighting to alleviate poverty in the United States. The News ran a series of articles in honor of the 50th anniversary of the War on Poverty, and detailed NASW's — and the profession's — involvement. We looked back 50 years and brought readers up to the present — and future — of the ongoing struggle to help America's poorest citizens.

These are just some of the issues covered last year in the NASW News. Members can read the full articles in the online News archives at socialworkers.org.



As a member you have access to tools and resources that help you grow and succeed as a professional social worker and community leader.



advance **IN THE WORKPLACE**

CAREER CENTER: Search online for a new social work job, negotiate for higher pay, or start a business.

WEBINARS: Learn what's happening in multiple fields of practice through free and discounted courses.

PRACTICE TOOLS: Get guidance on hot practice topics from social workers who understand national policy.



protect **YOURSELF**

INSURANCE: Make sure complaints don't derail your career with insurance and risk management workshops.

LEGAL: Learn how colleagues are handling complex regulatory and legal challenges in the workplace.

ETHICS: Use the NASW Code of Ethics to improve your organization's service standards.



connect **WITH COLLEAGUES**

SOCIAL MEDIA: Join 100,000+ social workers online to discuss compelling professional and social issues.

CHAPTERS: Attend local education, advocacy and social events to expand your social work network.

CONFERENCES: Build skills and earn CEUs through your chapter conference or the national conference.



advocate **FOR SOCIAL WORK**

LISTSERV: Shape public policy by contacting elected officials online about social work positions.

REINVESTMENT: Help social workers in Congress pass national legislation to study and support the profession.

MEDIA: Change public perceptions of social workers by educating journalists, filmmakers and producers.

NASW RESOURCES & BENEFITS

NASW Member Center » Your Profile
SocialWorkers.org/membercenter

Professional Liability & Group Insurance
NASWAssurance.org

Social Work Career Center
Careers.SocialWorkers.org

Practice Updates
SocialWorkers.org/practice

Specialty Practice Sections
SocialWorkers.org/sections

NASW Chapters
SocialWorkers.org/chapters

NASW Credentials
SocialWorkers.org/credentials

Social Media
SocialWorkers.org/socialmedia

Online Continuing Education
SocialWorkers.org/ce

NASW Member Discount Programs
SocialWorkers.org/joinbenefits/discounts

Publications & Subscriptions
SocialWorkers.org/pubs



"We are the ones held accountable for the ethical and successful management of our practices. We need not fear these changes; instead we can embrace them and utilize them to better benefit ourselves, our practices and our clients."

Camielle Call, LCSW, has a private practice in Sitka, Alaska.