



# INSSWA Networker Networker

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear INSSWA Members:

Don't let the brutally cold weather that we have been experiencing freeze your participation and advocacy during this Indiana legislative session. As a school social worker organization, we are enjoying our largest membership ever, with 242 members. This is very encouraging, despite the state of our school budget crisis. As your President, I have been very active in speaking to school leaders, legislators, and community leaders about the need to lobby to support public education. This legislative session is crucial to school social workers and other support staff who serve a vital role in supporting students' social and emotional needs, thus eliminating barriers to learning.

INSSWA has been blessed to be able to maintain a sound fiscal budget due to your active participation. This strong membership support from you has provided our organization with opportunities to offer scholarships to attend conferences/trainings, mini-grants to further support programs which serve students, and a free conference each year in the spring. This year's Spring Conference is May 13th at the Marriott Indianapolis East. "Meeting the Needs of All" is a conference on homelessness sponsored by the Department of Education, the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority, and the Indiana Head Start Association. These organizations offered us the opportunity to join them in learning new skills to serve the homeless population in schools and communities.

I, along with other Board members, will be attending the Midwest Council Meeting in Springfield, Illinois, February 25-27 to learn new ways to strengthen our organization on the state and national levels. Please remember to visit our website at [www.insswa.org](http://www.insswa.org) for information about the upcoming SSWAA Conference and the Midwest Conference in the fall.

I bid you farewell and stay warm.

Cynthia Evans, MSW, LSW  
President

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## HAPPY SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK WEEK

March 6-12, 2011



## MINI-GRANTS

### INSSWA Officers

#### President:

Cynthia Evans

[cevens@kokomo.k12.in.us](mailto:cevens@kokomo.k12.in.us)

#### President Elect:

Pam Lawrence Puls

[plawrenc@mccsc.edu](mailto:plawrenc@mccsc.edu)

#### Secretary:

Deidre Knop

[knop@ips.k12.in.us](mailto:knop@ips.k12.in.us)

#### Treasurer:

Tammy Skinner

[skinnert@ips.k12.in.us](mailto:skinnert@ips.k12.in.us)

### Board of Directors

Beth Hoban

Dee Kempson

Traci Larrison

Terry Miller

Pat Pricher

Linda Temme

Megan Thomas

### Mini-Grant Awardees

Congratulations to the following mini-grant awardees:

\*\*Tracy Dawson for “We’re Filling Buckets”

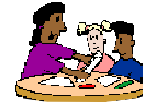
\*\*Kelly Miller for “School Wide Positive Behavior System”

\*\*Melissa Morris for “Character Counts”

\*\*Michelle A. Tuttle for “R Time”

\*\*Susan Nichter for “1-2-3 Magic—Partnership with Parents”

\*\*Jennifer Chmielewski, Shoshanna Everhart, and Julie Rosier for “Mentoring Programs”



We look forward to seeing the results of your projects at the Fall Conference!

### 2011 INSSWA Committees

Members of INSSWA have the opportunity to get involved in school social work at the state level by being on one or more of our committees. Being a committee member allows you an opportunity to get involved, lead, and participate in our profession to strengthen the services that we provide to students, school social workers, schools, families, and communities. Below are the committees and the chairperson(s) with their e-mail contact. We hope to hear from you soon!

#### Committee

Conference  
Legislation  
Membership

Communications  
Audit  
Newsletter

Website  
Midwest  
Mini-grants  
SSW of the Year  
Promotions  
Scholarships  
Nomination

#### Chairperson(s)

Pam Lawrence Puls  
Traci Larrison  
Linda Temme  
Jane Zobel  
Megan Thomas  
Beth Hoban  
Mim Smith  
Deidre Knop  
Pat Pricher  
Terry Miller  
Terry Miller  
Jeanne Milligan  
Beth Hoban  
Cynthia Evans  
Cynthia Evans

#### E-mail

[plawrenc@mccsc.edu](mailto:plawrenc@mccsc.edu)  
[tlarrison@brownsburg.k12.in.us](mailto:tlarrison@brownsburg.k12.in.us)  
[temmel@ips.k12.in.us](mailto:temmel@ips.k12.in.us)  
[jezobel@att.net](mailto:jezobel@att.net)  
[meganthomassw@gmail.com](mailto:meganthomassw@gmail.com)  
[bhoban@kokomo.k12.in.us](mailto:bhoban@kokomo.k12.in.us)  
[mimmers@embaarqmail.com](mailto:mimmers@embaarqmail.com)  
[knopd@ips.k12.in.us](mailto:knopd@ips.k12.in.us)  
[pat.pricher@evsc.k12.in.us](mailto:pat.pricher@evsc.k12.in.us)  
[phillip@iquest.net](mailto:phillip@iquest.net)  
[phillip@iquest.net](mailto:phillip@iquest.net)  
[milligaj@ips.k12.in.us](mailto:milligaj@ips.k12.in.us)  
[bhoban@kokomo.k12.in.us](mailto:bhoban@kokomo.k12.in.us)  
[cevens@kokomo.k12.in.us](mailto:cevens@kokomo.k12.in.us)  
[cevens@kokomo.k12.in.us](mailto:cevens@kokomo.k12.in.us)

## INSSWA Conference Committee Updates

This year's Spring Seminar will be in cooperation with Building Brighter Futures of Indiana on Friday, May 13, 2011 at the Marriott Indianapolis East. The title is "Meeting the Needs of All: a conference on homelessness" and is free with lunch included. Registration is not yet available, but please watch the Spring Seminar page on the website at <http://insswa.org/springWorkshop.html> for updated information. We hope to see you there!

Our Fall Conference is also our Midwest Conference, which will be September 29th and 30<sup>th</sup> at the Marriott North in Indianapolis. Keynotes Dr. Stephen Sroka and Liana Lowenstein will open each day with motivational talks to encourage you in your work. Please plan to attend! For more information, please go to our website: [http://insswa.org/conference\\_midwest.html](http://insswa.org/conference_midwest.html).

### COMMUNICATION INFORMATION

As an INSSWA member, you should be receiving, on average, daily emails. The emails often cover important legislative information, upcoming conferences, INSSWA board meeting and member updates, and information shared by Dee Kempson, School Social Work Consultant—Indiana Department of Education.

In June 2010, INSSWA board members decided to "Go Green." Thus, the majority of INSSWA communications will be sent via email. This includes our quarterly newsletter, school social work week information, scholarship information, etc. INSSWA will not be mailing this information to you. If needed, you can print the information at your school and/or home printer.

Please remember to forward pertinent INSSWA communications to your administrators and principals. This is especially true for school social worker week, school social worker of the year nominations and legislative information.

If you are not receiving these emails, please send an updated email address to Megan Thomas, INSSWA Communication chair, at [meganthomassw@gmail.com](mailto:meganthomassw@gmail.com).

We are also trying to utilize our INSSWA website as a way to keep members connected and up-to-date with activity in the organization. On the website you will find newsletters, conference information, important information and links for the DOE and other resources. Please log on to [www.insswa.org](http://www.insswa.org) and browse!



## **Legislative News**

The Indiana legislature is now in session through April 29<sup>th</sup>. During the next few months, 100 members of the House of Representatives and 50 state Senators will meet in special committees and in regular session to determine the laws for our state. Many pieces of potential legislation affecting schools, staff, students, and families are before them this session. As a school social worker, you possess knowledge about many of the issues and are encouraged to share your expertise with your local legislator. Legislators rely on communication with their constituents to become knowledgeable about the issues. The more information they receive, the better laws can be made for the people of this state. With the recent elections, many districts have new representation. To find out who your legislators are, go to [www.in.gov/legislative](http://www.in.gov/legislative), and click on “who’s your legislator”.

This is a good time to call or write and introduce yourself. Establishing a connection today can make a difference in tomorrow.

### **Ways to Keep Track of What’s Going on at the Statehouse**

- \*Read the Newspaper
- \*Pay attention to the information that you receive from professional groups, such as NASW, Mental Health America, IDOE, United Way, and teacher unions
- \*Read information mailed to your home from your legislator’s office
- \*Talk to your colleagues
- \*Check out the Indiana legislative website: [www.in.gov/legislative](http://www.in.gov/legislative)
- \*Watch your e-mail for INSSWA legislative updates

### **Updating the SSWAA Legislative Team**

The School Social Work Association of America (SSWAA) is pleased to announce the addition of Libby Nealis to their legislative team. Libby joins Myrna Mandlawitz in working on Government Relations. She is a seasoned lobbyist...and a social worker! Her previous work includes working in Congress for a House Member and as the Government Relations Director for the National Association of School Psychologists. This experience, and expertise, means she joins SSWAA with a great background that will benefit her in her new role. A warm Indiana welcome is sent her way.



## Consultant’s Corner

Happy School Social Work Week!

This season is proving to be busy – given the number of bills passing through the General Assembly – and the resulting meetings and discussions when the bill content touches on issues related to children’s social, emotional, behavioral and mental health.

I would like you to be aware of some resources recently added to the IDOE Student Services website. On the HEA 1419 website at <http://www.doe.in.gov/sservices/discipline/index.html> under Guidance Videos you will find presentations on Disproportionality, The HEA 1419 Plan, Culturally Responsive PBIS, and PBIS's Impact on Academics, Family Involvement, Dropout Rates, and Least Restrictive Environment.

On the Resource Document under Behavior/Classroom Management you will also find a wonderful training on disaggregating discipline data in order to develop behavior goals. This module was developed by the Equity Project at IU and titled “Module 7A” from the **PBIS Indiana** training modules “Using Data to Improve School Discipline.” It can be found at <http://www.indiana.edu/~pbisin/flash/Module7A/Module7A.swf>

In response to the SEA 316 legislation passed last year the IDOE will also be posting Dating Violence Prevention training materials on-line at the IDOE Student Services webpage beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Post your proclamation for School Social Work week somewhere prominent! You all make me proud to serve you.

Always feel welcome to contact me any time at [dkempson@doe.in.gov](mailto:dkempson@doe.in.gov) or call me at 317-234-4827. It is always good to hear from you.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee Kempson

IDOE School Social Work Consultant

### Calendar of Events

March 1-31	Disability Awareness Month	<a href="http://www.in.gov/gpcpd">www.in.gov/gpcpd</a>
March 6-12	National School Social Work Week	Celebrate
March 29	Prevent Child Abuse, Indiana’s Breaking the Cycle Conference	<a href="http://www.pcain.org">www.pcain.org</a>
March 30-April 2	SSWAA’s National Conference	<a href="http://sswaa.org/index.asp?page=82">sswaa.org/index.asp?page=82</a>
April 1-30	April is Prevent Child Abuse & Awareness month.	<a href="http://www.pcain.org">www.pcain.org</a>
April 12	PCA Howard County Annual Conference	<a href="mailto:barbhilton@fsahc.org">barbhilton@fsahc.org</a>
April 15	INSSWA Newseltter & Ad Deadline	<a href="mailto:mimmers@embarqmail.com">mimmers@embarqmail.com</a>
May 1	School Social Worker of the Year Apps. Due	<a href="mailto:milligaj@ips.k12.in.us">milligaj@ips.k12.in.us</a>
May 13	INSSWA’s Spring Seminar	<a href="mailto:plawrenc@mccsc.edu">plawrenc@mccsc.edu</a>