

# Clinical Perspectives

The Clinical Social Work Association of Savannah

August 2008

## News and Announcements

The Summer Institute was a resounding success this year, and we would like to extend our gratitude to Frank Barker of Recovery Place, Inc. for an outstanding presentation in this year's Summer Institute. It was both educational and entertaining, and attendees were able to expand their knowledge on diagnostic criteria for sex addiction, factors in the development of the addictive process, and the recovery process for this disorder. CSWA-S would also like to express our

appreciation for Hospice Savannah, who provided us the use of their facilities for this year's Institute, and to thank all of the volunteers who made this event possible. The annual conferences, the institutes, and the monthly meetings and are implemented with the fundamental objective of bringing the highest level of educational opportunities for CSWA-S members, and we would not be able to perform this task without your continued support.

## Monthly Meeting – August 27, 2008

This month, our colloquium will be led by Richard A. Lally, LPC, NCC, CPRP of AmericanWork, Inc.

AmericanWork provides a wide variety of services for those with mental health and developmental delay issues. Topics will include an

overview of his company's services, as well as information concerning dual-diagnosis clients.

The luncheon will be held at Riverview Health. RSVP for meals and CEUs no later than August 22<sup>nd</sup> at: [harkonan@aol.com](mailto:harkonan@aol.com)

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### Calendar of Events:

- 08/27/08: Monthly Meeting at the Gibbons Chapel in the rear of Riverview Health & Rehabilitation (6711 LaRoche Ave.)
- 09/24/08: Legislative Luncheon at the Gibbons Chapel in the rear of Riverview Health & Rehabilitation (6711 LaRoche Ave.)



## Editorials and Opinion

Summer is here, along with high temperatures and heat advisories. With rising fuel costs, the most vulnerable people in our community are at the greatest risk for heat related incidents. A valuable resource for finding available area low-income assistance programs can be found at:

[www.liheapch.acf.hhs.gov/profiles/Georgia.htm](http://www.liheapch.acf.hhs.gov/profiles/Georgia.htm)

Furthermore, in the spirit of energy conservation, we are striving to make this publication 100% electronic in an effort to reduce our carbon footprint while also minimizing the effects of the ever-increasing costs of printing and shipping. It is the most fervent hope of this organization that we

will be able to decrease significantly and/or eliminate paper copy of this newsletter altogether by the end of 2008.

### Legislative Luncheon

Our annual Legislative Luncheon will be held on September 24<sup>th</sup> at the Gibbons Chapel of Riverview Health on LaRoche Avenue. Area elected officials will join us in a repast to discuss issues of concern for social workers, as well as bring us up to date with current trends in the Georgia legislature. The primary topic this year will be the upcoming restructuring process of DHR which will separate SAMHSA and DFCS, and the implications this re-organization will have on the people who utilize their services.

### A Letter to the Board:

I was obviously shocked and totally unprepared for receiving the Community Social Worker award, but I cannot tell you how special that particular award was. I have always...felt that we all shared the responsibility of Child Abuse and Neglect. So the distinction of being recognized in the arena of community work was so special to me.

In addition, it was doubly special to me for a DFCS worker to get this. I think most would tend to hear this award and think in terms of a grass roots organization or person. And with DFCS being such a large bureaucratic system, I think we tend to lose the value of DFCS as working in the grass roots of the "Community". But as you well know the work of those who step out into the "community" and into peoples lives at the most intimate levels and in all aspects of their lives cannot get anymore "community based".

I felt that I accepted (the Community Social Worker of the Year Award) not only for me but also for all the Child Welfare case workers and supervisors of DFCS. For me it was honoring DFCS and the work of that agency as well as me as an individual.

Thank you again and again for this special recognition.

Debbie Bennett, Region 12 - DFCS

## About AmericanWork, Inc.

AmericanWork, Inc. was established in July of 1999. The company was created in an effort to bring together “public” agency commitment to service and the advantage of private sector business structure and flexibility. Services provided by Americanwork, Inc. include Adult Mental Health Services (peer support, supported employment, community support for individuals, adult residential support, psychosocial rehabilitation, outpatient, transition and aftercare of probationers and parolees), Adult Developmental Disabilities Services, and Child & Adolescent Services (intensive family intervention, community residential and crisis services, approved Core Provider outpatient therapeutic intervention).

## About Richard A. Lally, LPC, NCC, CPRP

The Area Director for Savannah Residential on Skidaway Road, Savannah Psychosocial Rehabilitation, and the Douglas Residential programs of AmericaWorks, Richard Lally specializes in the treatment and resource management of dual-diagnoses individuals.

## In Our Hearts and Minds

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of Gladys Rainy Hill, who died after a long and courageous battle against Alzheimer’s disease. Ms. Hill was survived by her daughter Mary Hill, ACSW, LCSW, a formative member of the CSWA-S who has helped guide this organization throughout the years in her many roles as leader and consultant. Mary supported her mother at home through the duration of her illness, and we would like to extend our support to her during this difficult time.

### A Friendly Reminder:

The RSVP date for this month’s meeting at Riverview Health & Rehabilitation is **August 22, 2008**. Meatloaf, mashed potatoes and gravy, squash casserole, and cherry cobbler will be served for lunch. Please email Michael Mack at **[harkonan@aol.com](mailto:harkonan@aol.com)** and be sure to include in your message whether or not you will be eating. Thank you for your cooperation.

Clinical Social Work Association - Savannah

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**We're On The Web!**

<http://socialworksavannah.freeyellow.com/CSWA-S.htm>



## Social Worker Spotlight

### **Cathy McRae, PhD, LCSW**

Serving as the current vice-president of the CSWA-S, a professor of sociology and HBSE at St. Leo University, and in private practice since 1982, Cathy McRae has been a leader of the social work field in Savannah since 1977, when she served as the Program Coordinator of Aging Services at the Tidelands Community Mental Health Center.

Educated at Trinity College, the University of Tennessee (MSSW), and the University of South Carolina (PhD), Dr. McRae

has specialized in working with individuals, families and couples regarding issues in aging, grief, post traumatic stress disorder, (EMDR certified), and Collaborative Divorce. Her past roles have included administrative duties such as the Chief Executive Officer of SABHC, Regional Services Administrator of Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Addictive Diseases, and Director of General Mental Health at Tidelands.

She has three adult children and three grandchildren.