

Dear Colleagues in NASW West Virginia,

One of my favorite tasks as chair of your Nominating Committee is to ask for your nominations for the NASW West Virginia Chapter's annual merit awards. It is thrilling to know that at least once a year we take the time to honor the accomplishments of several truly special people. It is equally thrilling to see how our recognition of their hard work, dedication and self-sacrifice has given them the strength to carry on in their work, which inspires us all!

Nominations for these awards are now being accepted through March 23, 2009. The award categories and nominating instructions are to be found below.

We encourage you to submit the names and background information of potential recipients of the awards for *Social Worker of the Year*, *Catalyst Award for Direct Social Work Practice*, *Exemplar Award for Excellence in Social Work Management*, *Public Citizen of the Year*, and the Jon Blair Hunter Award for Political Advancement (*Legislator/Public Official of the Year*).

Please consider nominating a worthy individual for one of these awards. All nominees should have demonstrated a significant commitment to the values, ethics and ideals of the Social Work profession and made significant contributions to their state, community, client population and/or profession. Additional requirements are as follows:

Social Worker of the Year - must be members of NASW affiliated with the West Virginia Chapter and have earned an accredited degree in social work.

Catalyst Award for Direct Social Work Practice- must have earned an accredited degree in social work and spend at least 50% of their work time in direct practice with individuals, couples, groups, families, organizations or communities.

Exemplar award for Excellence in Social Work Management - must have earned a Master of Social Work degree and spend at least 50% of their work time in administration, management and/or supervision.

Public Citizen of the Year – not generally members of NASW or professional / licensed social workers

Jon Blair Hunter Award for Political Advancement (Legislator/Public Official of the Year) - are generally not members of NASW or professional or licensed social workers.

Please include the following information with the nomination:

1. Your name, address and contact information,
2. Nominee's name, address and phone/email contact information,
3. Attach a paragraph or two about the accomplishments and/or characteristics of the individual that have led you to make the nomination, including the nominee's demonstrated adherence to or respect for social work values and ethics, and their professional conduct and/or personal character as evidenced through their accomplishments or practice. Professional social worker nominees should embody, and

non-social worker nominees should embrace, the highest ideals of the social work profession, such as the right to client/consumer self-determination, promotion of sound public policies, exemplary ethical conduct, advancement of the profession and its goals, and/or significant contribution to the social work knowledge base.

4. Attach supportive documentation, such as news clippings, resume, letters of support, etc.

5. SUBMIT NOMINATIONS TO NO LATER THAN MARCH 23, 2009:

National Association of Social Workers, West Virginia Chapter

Attn: Nominations Committee

1608 Virginia Street East

Charleston, West Virginia 25311

(304) 345-NASW (6279)

FAX: 720-3766

Email: Mail@NASWWV.org

THANK YOU for making a nomination for one or more of these prestigious awards!

Sincerely,

Robbin Durham, ACSW, BCD

Chair, CCNLI Committee

Flat Top, WV

Rita Brown, MSW

Member CCNLI Committee

Cross Lanes, WV

Elena Bailey, MSW, ACSW

Member CCNLI Committee

Charleston, WV

Karen Dotson, MSW, LICSW

Member CCNLI Committee

Webster Springs, WV

Patience Land, MPA, MSW

Member CCNLI Committee

Clarksburg, WV