

June 2008

Semi-Annually
Newsletter

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Ramona Smith
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**Upcoming State
Holiday's**

June 2, 2008

July 4, 2008

September 1, 2008

October 13, 2008

Nov. 11 & 27, 2008

December 25, 2008

Please note that the
Board Office will be
closed on these
dates.

ABSWE

Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners 334/242-5860 or 1-888-879-3672

View from the Chair by Janet G. Rawls, LCSW



Welcome to the summer edition of the Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners newsletter. Inside, you will find several articles of interest and importance. As always, we are excited and encouraged by the number of newly approved licensed social workers. Congratulations to all of you! Also, please pay special attention to the New Board Member Openings page. While we will be saddened by the departure of three of our current board members, we look forward to meeting some fresh faces on the board. Please contact your district board member or the ABSWE office if you need additional information on these positions.

Although most of you are aware of the role ABSWE plays in regard to social work licensure, let me offer a reminder. The Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners was established in 1975 by legislation set forth in the Code of Alabama 1975, sections 34-30-1 – 34-30-58. The stated purpose of the board in this legislation is “to protect the public by setting standards of qualification, education, training and experience for those who seek to engage in the practice of Social Work and to protect the public by promoting high standards of professional performance for those engaged in the profession of Social Work, holding themselves forth as Social Workers”. When first appointed to this board, I struggled with stepping out of my normal “social work helper mode” and stepping into a role of protecting the public as mandated in the legislation noted above. I would dare say each member of this board has had difficulty at one time or another with changing our way of thinking. When confronted with issues that affect a social worker’s license and livelihood, our instinct is to give one the benefit of the doubt and sometimes even try to find ways to fix the problem. However, we are constantly referred back to Alabama Law and our Administrative Code, which clearly states what we can and cannot do along with what we do and do not have jurisdiction over.

I say all this as a way of “explaining” the decisions we, as a board, have to make. . Sometimes we struggle with that “gray” area, knowing that the decision we make may affect licensure or livelihood, but being bound by the Laws under which we must function. All too often, licensed social workers forget it is ABSWE’s role to protect the public from less than competent social work practice and to promote high standards of professional performance. As we all know, our profession is so valuable to our clients and our communities. Please join with us in our efforts to reinforce this by knowing and understanding the laws by which this profession is regulated in the State of Alabama.

Sincerely,

Janet Rawls, LCSW

Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act

The Adam Walsh Child Protection And Safety Act of 2006 (H.R. 4472) was signed on July 27, 2006 by President Bush. This Act mandates that a National Child Abuse Registry be established and **requires** investigators placing children to use this registry *to do background checks of Adoptive and Foster Parents before they are approved to take custody of a child.* Giving child protective service professionals in all 50 States access to this critical information will improve their ability to investigate child abuse cases and help ensure that vulnerable children are not put into situations of abuse or neglect.

We realize this information is old news to some, but for new PIP's working independently with adoptions it may be fresh. For more information please look up H.R. 4472 under Federal Government Acts.

Sharrie is a social worker with USA Regional Transplant Center

Persistence with a Purpose: Chelsea's Story

by Sharrie Cranford, LGSW, USA Medical Center

Chelsea Groves, a double lung, heart transplant recipient, was a red headed, blue eyed, full of fire, 16 year old girl. She was one of a kind and someone any person would have been honored to know. I met Chelsea a year earlier when I took over the USA Transplant Support Group. She came up to me with all the boldness of a top executive at a Fortune 500 company and said, "What are you going to do with the Youth Support Group?" Well, obviously I was taken back by this little spry girl demanding my attention. I stopped what I was doing and asked her, "What would you like me to do?" She proceeded to list all the things the youth in our area needed. Although the youth support group had always been every person before me and was last on my new list of projects, I realized this was not going to work for this girl. She asked that I set something up for the following week. Of course, telling this little girl no was obviously out of the question, so I gladly agreed. The following week I scheduled a dinner with staff and a dozen Youth Support Group teenagers. Unfortunately, only one person showed up....Chelsea. She was quick to point out, "teenagers do not want to sit and eat dinner with a bunch of adults because you will make them talk and teenagers don't want to talk to adults." She suggested we have a bowling night and do something to get the teenagers involved. During the next few weeks, two of the nurses, Lucretia Warren and Brenda Smith, told me that I needed to do something with our youth. The staff was discouraged and the children were failing on compliance and in jeopardy of losing their transplanted organs. A meeting was arranged with a local child therapist who suggested an incentive program. Lucretia, Brenda and I embarked on a bold new incentive program to keep our children compliant with their medications. With each three-month period of medication and appointment compliance they would win a prize, movie passes, dinner, electronics and for one full year a cruise for themselves and a family member. Of course we had no way of paying for this but it started with such success that two patients who were in jeopardy of losing their kidneys were in compliance and back on track.

January 30, 2007 5:15 p.m., I was at a local hospital checking on my patient, Chelsea. I was told that she was dying and would possibly not make it through the night. Of course, being a Social Worker, we are extremely sensitive people and this is one of our most grave situations. I went into the room knowing that I had to be strong but again, this little girl brought me to my knees. I was told that she had been slightly sedated and had not opened her eyes all day except for one person. It took a while for me to make it to her bedside as the room was packed. When I finally made it to her bed I could barely speak; however, I leaned over and whispered into her ear, "I started an incentive program for the youth support group and compliance has really increased." I went on to say that we had set up a bowling meeting the following month and were expecting a big turn out. While I was speaking she opened her eyes twice and I could barely speak. This support group was extremely important to this little girl. She knew the impact it would make and how it could help the children in our area work harder for the success of their organs. Chelsea died early the next morning; however, her legacy to me was that one voice can be very loud and can accomplish a lot. It was Chelsea's persistence that helped our support group and its success, which helped several children get back on track with taking care of their organs.

Thoughts of the Day

- ✓ Save the whales. Collect the whole set.
- ✓ A day without sunshine is like...night.
- ✓ On the other hand, you have different fingers.
- ✓ I just got lost in thought. It was unfamiliar territory.
- ✓ 42.7% of all statistics are made up on the spot.
- ✓ 99% of the lawyers give the rest a bad name.
- ✓ I feel like I'm diagonally parked in a parallel universe.
- ✓ You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say will be misquoted and then used against you.
- ✓ I wonder how much deeper the ocean would be without sponges.
- ✓ Honk if you love peace and quiet.



New I RSW's

NEW LICENSEES

4441B	BEAL	CANDACE	E DEC 2007	JEFFERSON
4442B	CHAPPELL	ASHLEY	B DEC 2007	MONTGOMERY
4443B	CROUCH	TOMMIE	L DEC 2007	JEFFERSON
4444B	HARDY	VICKIE	C DEC 2007	TUSCALOOSA
4445B	KASANG	CARRIE	A JAN 2008	MADISON
4446B	POOLE	MONICA	S JAN 2008	CLAY
4447B	JUNE	CHARNAYE	R JAN 2008	ELMORE
4448B	WALKER	LASHON	O JAN 2008	JEFFERSON
4449B	DENNIS	LAURA	S JAN 2008	LAUDERDALE
4450B	KIRKMAN	VICKY	D JAN 2008	LAUDERDALE
4451B	GRUBER	ROBIN	K FEB 2008	BALDWIN
4452B	BROOKS	SARAH	C FEB 2008	JEFFERSON
4453B	CHANDLER	BRUCE	W FEB 2008	TUSCALOOSA
4454B	JONES	VASHUNA	FEB 2008	LEE
4455B	STEWART	LAUREN	C FEB 2008	JEFFERSON
4456B	ASHLEY	BRITTANY	D FEB 2008	LEE
4457B	DEMETRIO	KIMBERLY	A FEB 2008	LEE
4458B	JACKSON	VANESSA	L FEB 2008	ELMORE
4459B	INMAN	JOSHUA	S FEB 2008	MONTGOMERY
4460B	LYON	ALISON	L FEB 2008	JEFFERSON
4461B	PENICK	TAMARIA	A FEB 2008	WALKER
4462B	HALL	MARTELL	T MAR 2008	CALHOUN
4463B	HARRIS	LAQUESHA	L MAR 2008	MONTGOMERY
4464B	DUNCAN	BRITNEY	L MAR 2008	MADISON
4465B	LEE	MARILYN	M MAR 2008	JEFFERSON

New LGSW's

2384G	COLEMAN	JAMES	E DEC 2007	LAUDERDALE
2385G	JOHNSON	STEVEN	H DEC 2007	CALHOUN
2386G	KELLEY	PAMELA	B DEC 2007	LAUDERDALE
2387G	MONTGOMERY	ROBIN	L DEC 2007	TUSCALOOSA
2388G	WISE	JULIET	L DEC 2007	MADISON
2389G	HUDSON	ASHLEY	M JAN 2008	JEFFERSON
2390G	MCKINNEY	MEOSHIA	T JAN 2008	SHELBY
2391G	MULLINS	SHERRI	F JAN 2008	TUSCALOOSA
2392G	BROWN	SUSANNA	J JAN 2008	OUT OF STATE
2393G	MONROE	ANNA	R JAN 2008	JEFFERSON
2394G	PAYTON	MICHELE	G JAN 2008	OUT OF STATE
2395G	EPPS	THRESEA	L JAN 2008	ETOWAH
2396G	PALMER	RACHEL	D JAN 2008	MONTGOMERY
2397G	POHM	ALINA	M JAN 2008	MONTGOMERY
2398G	WILL KINSON	VANJESSITHA	A JAN 2008	TUSCALOOSA

2399G	SHELTON-HUDGINS	KIMBERLY	M FEB 2008	OUT OF STATE
2400G	FORTNER	SANDRA	L FEB 2008	ETOWAH
2401G	GLASS	EMILY	L FEB 2008	JEFFERSON
2402G	JONES	ANGELA	B FEB 2008	TUSCALOOSA
2403G	KRETZSCHMAR	KENDRALIA	M FEB 2008	JEFFERSON
2404G	POLLARD	REGINA	R FEB 2008	JEFFERSON
2405G	DAVIDSON	JAYME	D FEB 2008	JEFFERSON
2406G	EATON	WASHAUNDRA	A FEB 2008	DALLAS
2407G	GIBSON	KIMBERLY	B FEB 2008	TUSCALOOSA
2408G	SMITH	LOUANNE	H FEB 2008	TALLADEGA
2409G	STEPHENSON	AMBER	M FEB 2008	BLOUNT
2410G	VENEZIA	CHRISTINA	M FEB 2008	MADISON
2411G	ADAMS	CAROLYN	FEB 2008	JEFFERSON
2412G	BAILEY	HOLLY	M FEB 2008	BALDWIN
2413G	CROWELL	NATHAN	A MAR 2008	JEFFERSON
2414G	DUNNICAN	SHERWANNA	K MAR 2008	PERRY
2415G	BOOTH	PATTY	C MAR 2008	MOBILE
2416G	MALONEY	BRIAN	MAR 2008	BIBB
2417G	EVANS	KIMBERLEY	L MAR 2008	MADISON
2418G	JOCHEN	JUDY	M MAR 2008	DALE
2419G	LETSON	ERIN	E MAR 2008	LAUDERDALE
2420G	TREADWAY	VERONICA	H MAR 2008	TUSCALOOSA

New LCSW's

2123C	BURNETTE	MARY FRANCES	C DEC 2007	TUSCALOOSA
2124C	HENRIE	STEFANIE	M DEC 2007	OUT OF STATE
2125C	MORRIS	DEBORAH	K DEC 2007	CULLMAN
2126C	SMALLWOOD	DANA	S DEC 2007	JEFFERSON
2127C	BATES	YOLANDA	JAN 2008	OUT OF STATE
2128C	MADARIS	SANDRA	J JAN 2008	BALDWIN
2129C	PHILLIPS	ROBIN	M JAN 2008	MOBILE
2130C	RUDDER	APRIL	R JAN 2008	OUT OF STATE
2131C	FOY	MARY	D JAN 2008	BARBOUR
2132C	SEWELL	DONNA	N JAN 2008	OUT OF STATE
2133C	SEARCH	KENNETH	JAN 2008	BALDWIN
2134C	DOOLEY JR	JOE	L FEB 2008	MADISON
2135C	JOSEPH	ANNAH	M FEB 2008	JEFFERSON
2136C	BAKER	TINA	I FEB 2008	MOBILE
2137C	LAND	REBECCA	L FEB 2008	MORGAN
2138C	ROBERTSON	WARNIE	M FEB 2008	LIMESTONE
2139C	BRADSHAW	SOMMER	C MAR 2008	JEFFERSON
2140C	WOODS	KRISTEN	A MAR 2008	JEFFERSON
2141C	HOUSER	BETSY	L MAR 2008	MADISON

Next Board Member Openings Scheduled for October 2008

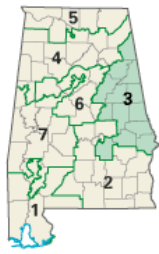
(District 3, 4, and 7 Maps)

Congressional District 3



nationalatlas.gov

3 Congressional District
Clay County



Alabama (7 Districts)

There will be three vacant positions for Board Members effective October 1, 2008. Of these three positions one must be an LCSW, one an LGSW and one an LBSW. There must also be at least one minority representative in this group.

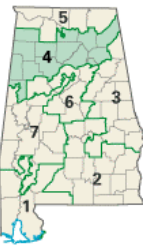
The board will accept letters for nominations from June 1, 2008 until September 1, 2008. The nominations must be made by a licensed social worker living within the district of the person they are nominating.

Congressional District 4



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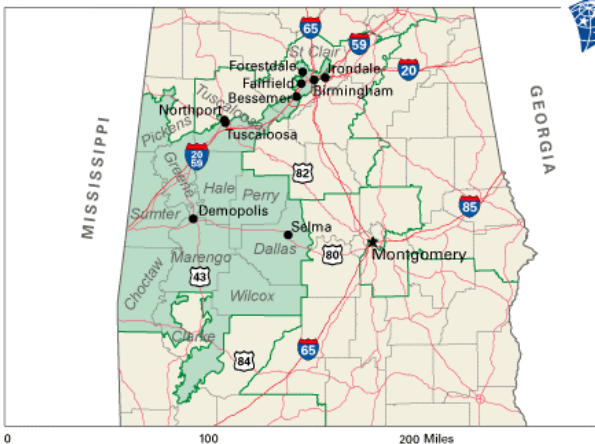
4 Congressional District
Cullman County



Alabama (7 Districts)

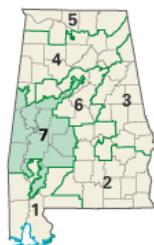
The letters must have the licensee's name, license number and mailing address of the person making the nomination. Letters received without this information cannot be accepted. Please mail your nomination letter to:

Congressional District 7



nationalatlas.gov

7 Congressional District
Perry County



Alabama (7 Districts)

Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners
Board Member Nomination
100 N Union Street, Suite 736
Montgomery AL 36130-1620

(See Page 5 "Board Composition" to see if you would like to volunteer your services.)

Board Member Composition and Duties

Composition: The Board is composed of seven members nominated by peers and appointed by the Governor from each of the United States Congressional Districts. Four members shall be licensed certified social workers; two members shall be licensed graduate social workers; one member shall be a licensed bachelor social worker. Board members serve three-year terms and are limited to two consecutive terms.

Purpose: The Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners was created to maintain the integrity of the social work profession and to protect the public against dangers arising from attempts by incompetent or unscrupulous persons to practice the profession of social work. This purpose is achieved through the establishment of minimum qualifications for licensure and certification in the profession of social work practice, through the adoption of rules defining and delineating unlawful conduct and through swift and effective discipline for those practitioners who violate the applicable laws or rules promulgated hereunder.

Meetings: The Board of Social Work Examiners will meet every other month on the fourth Friday unless otherwise notified. The Board meetings usually begin by 9:30 am and go four to eight hours in duration.

Officers: The Board annually elects the following officers: chairman, vice chairman and secretary.

Compensation and Expenses: Board members shall be compensated on a per diem basis, not to exceed the current per diem allowed for state employees, for days actually spent in performance of board duties.

New PIP's

0815-1873C	MELANIE	BARRAZA	D	MADISON	APR 2007
0816-2048C	APRIL	HALL	M	HAZEL GREEN	APR 2007
0817-2059C	ANNA	HENRY	H	HUNTSVILLE	APR 2007
0818-1799C	MICHELLE	McHUGH	P	BIRMINGHAM	APR 2007
0819-1929C	JULIE	PRIGMORE	A	MOODY	APR 2007
0820-1575C	NANCY	REALE	M	DANVILLE	APR 2007
0821-1603C	MARY	ROBERTSON	C	MONTGOMERY	APR 2007
0822-2044C	KATHLEEN	SHAULIS	A	BRANTLEY	APR 2007
0823-2071C	JENNIFER	SOULE	L	AUBURN	APR 2007
0824-2042C	LISA	WINKLER	M	NORTHPORT	APR 2007
0825-1597C	KELLI	WRIGHT	H	MOULTON	APR 2007
0826-1395C	DONNA	AVANT	M	TUSCALOOSA	JUN 2007
0827-2076C	ERIC	AVERETTE	B	JACKSONVILLE	JUN 2007
0828-2078C	CHRISTINA	HOLMES-MCLEMORE	L	EVA	JUN 2007
0829-0833C	MELANIE	MORROW		MILLBROOK	JUN 2007
0830-1516C	TAMMY	ROBBINS	D	HOOVER	JUN 2007
0831-2066C	CARO	SHANAHAN	K	ATLANTA	JUN 2007
0832-1991C	KRISTY	WALKER	S	BOAZ	JUN 2007
0833-2092C	CINDY	BRADLEY	Y	BATON ROUGE	AUG 2007
0834-1697C	JENNIFER	PATTERSON		TUSCALOOSA	AUG 2007
0835-2046C	JULIE	SAYCE		BIRMINGHAM	AUG 2007
0836-2063C	LINDSEY	SPARKS	T	HUNTSVILLE	AUG 2007

Board of Social Work Examiners

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.socialwork.alabama.gov

Congrats to Michael Smith, LCSW

The Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners has learned that David "Michael" Smith of Decatur Alabama has been appointed to the Examination Committee for the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB). He has been working for them as an item writer for the National Exam from 2004 to 2008. He plans to return to item writing after serving one year on the Examination Committee. Way to go Michael!

For all those interested in becoming item writers for ASWB contact Lavina Harless of the association or watch for the notice in your newsletter posting when they are accepting new applicants. Item writers can earn \$1000 for a thirty-question contract. ASWB provides the training and pays all travel expenses while attending sessions.

PIP's continued

0837-2086C	RANDALL	STEWART	H	HUNTSVILLE	AUG 2007
0838-1692C	BRENDA	VACTOR	L	HUNTSVILLE	AUG 2007
0839-1750C	TINA	WHITTINGTON	J	GADSDEN	AUG 2007
0840-1315C	KATHERINE	CRISLER	W	FLORENCE	OCT 2007
0841-1508C	ROBBIE S	DODSON	M	MADISON	OCT 2007
0842-1743C	JOY DENISE	MCCORMICK	M	NEW BROCKTON	OCT 2007
0843-1344C	AMY	MOONEY	E	HELENA	OCT 2007
0844-0054C	LYNNE	ROGERS		BIRMINGHAM	OCT 2007
0845-2101C	WANDA	ROSS	K	ALEXANDRIA	OCT 2007
0846-0639C	GWENDOLYN	SMITH	S	MOBILE	OCT 2007
0847-2029C	JANET	STRICKLAND	L	DALEVILLE	OCT 2007
0848-1975C	CAROL	GRAY	A	NORTHPORT	NOV 2007
0849-2112C	SUSAN	GUILLORY	M	MOBILE	NOV 2007
0850-1577C	MARGARET	HOWARD-BARROW	A	BIRMINGHAM	NOV 2007
0851-2060C	NICOLE	PARKER	L	TALLADEGA	NOV 2007
0852-0085C	DALTON	BLANKENSHIP	F	BIRMINGHAM	JAN 2008
0853-2028C	SUZANNE	CAGLIONE	H	SPANISH FORT	JAN 2008
0854-1629C	CHARLOTTE	HAMNER	S	TUSCALOOSA	JAN 2008
0855-1481C	EDWARD	HERITAGE JR	H	NORTHPORT	JAN 2008
0856-1988C	ERIN	MALONE		CALERA	JAN 2008

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