

Make a difference!

**FALL 2014**

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**BSWE Newsletter**



Greetings colleagues! My name is Mark Lannon and this is my first contribution to the BSWE's Newsletter. I hope every Maryland social worker enjoyed their summer and are preparing to make the transition to winter. After completing two years of my four year term, I was elected at the recent July meeting by my fellow Board members to serve as chair for 2014-15 as we continue

to strive, as created and empowered by the Maryland legislature, to regulate the social work profession in Maryland with a primary responsibility to protect the public.

In this newsletter, I want to recognize Jim Merrow, Judy Levy and Gloria Jean Hammel. Jim, former BSWE Executive Director stepped down last December to take on new challenges. During his tenure the Board made significant advances in promoting new regulations, technology and networking with national associations. I want to offer Judy Levy, LCSW-C a big thank you as well. Judy successfully completed her term as Chair in June where she demonstrated thoughtful and patient leadership. Likewise praise and thanks are due to longtime BSWE employee Gloria Jean Hammel, LCSW-C, Director, Certification and Licensing Unit. As 'Acting Director', she dealt with the many aspects and issues associated with this position as well as staying on top of her regular duties while the Board conducted its search for a new executive.

The BSWE search for executive leadership was completed earlier this summer and I am pleased to announce and introduce Stanley Weinstein, Ph.D., LCSW-C, as the Board's new Executive Director. Quite accomplished, he brings considerable administrative, clinical, research and educational experience to the position. During his career, he has directed a SIDS counseling center, the Mental Hygiene Administration's Social Work Services, an eating disorder program, a group home for adults with serious mental illness and served as the CEO of a large non-profit organization which served children with serious behavioral and emotional problems. Dr. Weinstein has also taught at the University of Maryland's School of Medicine, School of Social Work and lectured at other Maryland universities. Likewise, he has served on numerous boards and commissions including serving as Chair of the Board of Social Work Examiners in the 1980s. My Board colleagues and I anticipate his

leadership will successfully promote, guide and maintain high standards of professional social work in Maryland.

In other business, one of the concerns the BSWE dealt with during 2013-2014 was the frustration of several graduate licensees seeking to sit for the LCSW-C test for full licensure and being denied because their supervisors were not registered with the Board to supervise other social workers. My advice to LGSWs is to make sure your supervisor is registered. You may verify registered supervisors on the Department of Health & Mental Hygiene's Board of Social Work website. I also offer a word of caution to LCSW-Cs who are not registered as supervisors but present themselves as such. You may face disciplinary action by the Board if a complaint is made.

Moving forward, the BSWE will be losing three long time members in June 2015 as they will be completing their respective terms. For me, seeking appointment to serve on the BSWE was a way of giving back to the profession which provided so many wonderful experiences and opportunities. I have not regretted the decision to seek appointment to serve on the Board and have learned much from it. I would encourage any licensee in good standing to consider applying for appointment to the Board. Further information may be found on the Board's website under the Board Member Vacancies tab on the left hand side, and on Page 4 of this Newsletter.

Best wishes.

Mark Lannon, LCSW-C  
Board Chair

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## Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Maryland Continuing Education Regulations – A Must Read!

### COMAR 10.42.06



As a licensed Maryland Social Worker, you must be familiar with the continuing education regulations. For example, do you know the answers to the following?

- \* What are the different types of continuing education programs/activities that can earn CEUs ?
- \* What are the continuing education requirements for LBSW, LGSW, LCSW and LCSW-C

- How many CEU's must be earned during a 2 year renewal cycle ?
- The types of CE documentation accepted by the Board of Social Work Examiners ?
- \* Who can be an authorized continuing education sponsor ?

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Are you a CE sponsor, or interested in becoming a Board approved sponsor?

- \* Read the CE regulations regarding sponsor authorization
- \* Follow the instructions to complete the application (access via the Board's website, [www.dhmf.maryland.gov/bswe](http://www.dhmf.maryland.gov/bswe) , by clicking on CEU Tab and then Forms on the right hand side)
- \* Allow 45 days for Board staff to review your program application. This time frame is important and necessary since:
  - Board staff may have questions concerning the application,
  - There may be incomplete information, or
  - Missing documentation

### **Post Renewal 2013 Continuing Education Units Audit Update**

The Board randomly selected 400 active licensees for the Continuing Education Units (CEUs) audit for the period November 1, 2011 – October 31, 2013. As you may be aware, the Board has an agreement with the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) whereby they contact the selected licensees, review the CEUs submission, and determine whether or not the licensee meets all the requirements per current regulations. If it is determined that the licensee does not meet the requirements, this information is forwarded to the Board for further review and follow up.

2013 Audit - Percentage of Licensees that met all requirements: 94 %

2013 Audit - Percentage of Licensees that did not meet all requirements: 6 %

For the upcoming 2012 – 2014 Post Renewal CEU Audit Cycle, 600 active licensees will be randomly chosen.

Once the Board approves the 2014 CEU Sanctioning Guidelines, it will be posted on the CEU Webpage and it will also be included in the mailings to the licensees chosen for the upcoming 2014 audit.

**\*\*NOTE:** It is important to retain your CEUs certificates and documentation obtained from the trainings, courses, on-line trainings, webinars and conferences you attended.

## BSWE BOARD MEMBER VACANCIES

The Board of Social Work Examiners is in the process of recruiting for several Board Member vacancies. The following seats are open for nominations:

- \* Three LCSW - C seats
- \* One at-large seat - All licensees including LGSW, LBSW, LCSW, and LCSW-C are eligible.
- \* One LCSW seat

The individuals appointed will be required to attend one Board Meeting a month, participate in one or more Board Committees, and participate in disciplinary hearings or committees. Please note that serving on the Board requires the commitment of non-meeting time for review of case and investigative materials, reports, as well as pertinent information for upcoming meetings.

For further information including the application instructions and forms, please visit the Board's website at [www.dhmf.maryland.gov/bswe](http://www.dhmf.maryland.gov/bswe) and click on the Board Member Vacancies tab in the left column.

**Deadline for submission: November 24, 2014**

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## BOARD REMINDERS

### ***Per THE ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORK BOARDS' website:***

"The Association of Social Work Boards' Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program identifies and recognizes high-quality continuing education providers that can deliver quality programs in many topics, through in-person or distance learning settings."

For more information, click on <http://www.aswb.org/ace>

### ***Sponsors***

If you have a concern regarding an approved sponsor and/or the trainings or activities you have taken, please contact the approved sponsor directly. If you would like to speak with a staff member, please contact:

Deborah A. Evans, Continuing Education Coordinator, at [deborah.evans@maryland.gov](mailto:deborah.evans@maryland.gov)

### ***Discipline***

Public Orders (formal disciplinary actions) from 2005 – present may be viewed on the Board's website: [www.dhmf.maryland.gov/bswe](http://www.dhmf.maryland.gov/bswe) . The link to the Public Orders is on the left menu.

## CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK

Effective January 1, 2014, the Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners (the “Board”) is mandated to require applicants for licensure to submit to a full Criminal History Records Check, which includes both State and FBI checks. The instructions and necessary form are included in every application packet accessible on our web site.

\*\*\*\*The results of the background check are sent directly to the Board electronically.

\*\*\*\*The results MUST be received before a license can be issued.

\*\*\*\*An applicant should first submit the application to the Board – then proceed to have the background check completed.

\*\*\*\*An applicant who responds “yes” to any question in the application should proceed with the background check as soon as possible after submitting the application. In these cases, the results must be received before the application review can occur.

Questions should be directed to Anne Walker, LCSW-C, Social Work Supervisor. She can be reached at 410-764-5963 or at [anne.walker@maryland.gov](mailto:anne.walker@maryland.gov)

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## LICENSING REMINDERS

### ***No paper license issued***

Please be reminded that the Board of Social Work no longer issues paper licenses. Please utilize the license verification page located on the Board of Social Work Examiners web site. Type in your name or license number. Next click view details. This is the page that you can print out and utilize.

### ***Blue ink in applications***

Be reminded that all documents need to be completed and signed in blue ink. The only exceptions are Contractual Agreement Forms that were signed prior to the policy change.

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