“Activism is the rent I pay for living on this planet.”

– Alice Walker

NASW Puerto Rico Chapter sends message detailing dire situation on island

Oct 04, 2017

This message from the NASW Puerto Rico Chapter was sent to Mark Nichols, NASW manager of chapter services, in a series of cellphone text messages during the afternoon of Oct. 3. It has been slightly edited. We wish to share it with members and the wider social work community. NASW will convey this message to members of Congress who are social workers and soon give information on how we can assist social workers in Puerto Rico:

Thank you for your support. Our main concern is there are no communications. There are no cellular phones that work well. All the island is without power — there is no water and little produce.

President Trump came today and just said we are costing too much money for the United States government. The suicide rate is too high triggered by the suffering from lack of basic needs. During this period about 12 persons committed suicide (and there are likely more that are not confirmed).
We are citizens of the United States of America, we defend the principles of democracy, we fought in World War I, World War II, Vietnam, Korea, Afghanistan and Iraq.

Our people went to Vietnam without any preparation. Most of those who were drafted were only 17 years old and had no understanding of the English language. We fight very bravely with no support. Even the Congress recognized the 65th Infantry Regiment as an important part of (American) history. The man who planned to rescue the Americans who were hostages in Iran by the Carter administration, he was a Puerto Rican.

Actually, we need support from the federal government, not just 4,000 soldiers around the island. We need to repair the electricity. We need water and food. There are people in the shelters without hope. Simply, there is no place to go.

Mr. Nichols let the social workers know about our situation. Let the newspapers describe all the justice we need. I trust our nation and I strongly believe that a call to the Congress will help make the effort to help not a political issue, but a social justice issue. As I explained, the communications (are very bad).

Thank you very much.

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NASW Foundation has established

**The Social Work Disaster Assistance Fund.**

It is operational and can accept donations.

The Fund is for Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands - and is general enough to allow us flexibility in how we disburse the funds as we continue to hear what is most helpful.

**To Donate** please visit the NASW Foundation website at

[www.naswfoundation.org/911.asp](http://www.naswfoundation.org/911.asp)
Behavioral health service providers increasingly view trauma as an important element that must be addressed in providing effective services for mental and substance use disorders. Trauma may occur as a result of violence, abuse, neglect, loss, disaster, war and other emotionally harmful experiences. Left unaddressed, it may lead to long lasting effects that can compromise a person's behavioral, emotional, cognitive, and physical health.

SAMHSA, through its Strategic Initiative on Trauma and Justice, has been a leader in identifying and supporting ways that service systems can become more attuned to trauma-related issues and skilled in responding to them. Efforts include public education to raise awareness, prevention and early identification efforts, technical assistance for developing trauma-informed service environments, and trauma-specific treatment.

SAMHSA's work in this area was strongly influenced by two seminal research studies:

- SAMHSA's Women, Co-occurring Disorders and Violence Study, which revealed greatly improved program outcomes when trauma and violence were addressed as underlying causes in delivering services to people with mental and substance use disorders.

The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study, conducted by the Centers for Disease Control in partnership with Kaiser Permanente in California, which examined the effects of a range of adverse childhood events on adult health and development. Two of SAMHSA's key efforts to address trauma are the National Child National Child Traumatic Stress Network.

The National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) is a nationwide network of researchers, intervention developers and service providers whose objective is to improve the access to and quality of services for children and families exposed to trauma. The NCTSN was established by Congress in 2000 under the Children's Health Act that provides funding through the National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative (NCTSI). The NCTSI also supports a National Child Trauma Coordinating Center to manage the network, grants to intervention developers and grants for community service providers, as well as learning collaboratives in trauma-specific areas.

**How NCTSN Works**

As the network grantees and members work to address the needs of children and families, they also benefit from collaboration with one another. Treatment and Service Adaptation (TSA), centers run by universities and medical centers, develop evidence-based practices for which they then provide training throughout the network. Community Treatment and Services Centers of frontline and community organizations work together and also benefit from the TSA training.

The NCTSN facilitates the formation of collaborative workgroups or committees guided by strategic plans for specific areas such as child welfare, sexual abuse, trafficking, medical trauma, community trauma, and traumatic experiences of refugees and immigrants. These workgroups give grantees and members the opportunity to work together to advance practices with a specific topic in mind.
The NCTSN also hosts a Learning Center that offers free, open-forum training for providers and others supporting children who have experienced traumatic events. The trainings are self-paced and flexible, and CEUs are available for providers. This resource also includes podcasts, content on specific populations, and clinical training. Through the Learning Center and additional training events delivered by grantees, the NCTSN provides training to more than 200,000 participants annually. Stress Network and the National Center for Trauma-Informed Care.

**National Center for Trauma-Informed Care and Alternatives to Seclusion and Restraint**

SAMHSA’s National Center for Trauma-Informed Care and Alternatives to Seclusion and Restraint (NCTIC) focuses on reducing the use of seclusion and restraint through trauma-informed culture change in publicly funded organizations, systems, and communities. It provides training, technical assistance, and consultation to increase understanding and responsiveness to trauma in behavioral health, offering on-site and virtual support, as well as Virtual Learning Communities, webinars, and online tools.

NCTIC stresses the importance of involving trauma survivors and service recipients in all aspects of its work and in trauma-informed culture change, from conceptualization to implementation and evaluation.

In addition to providing technical assistance, facilitating collaboration, and awarding grants to continue this work, SAMHSA recently initiated an effort to train all agency staff in ways to understand and integrate a trauma-informed approach in SAMHSA grants, contracts, and program and policy development.


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**ERIN MERRYN**

*A passionate speaker who shares her story of hope and inspiration. She is the originator of Erin’s Law, an advocate for children, child sexual abuse survivor and author*

Erin has been a guest on the Oprah Winfrey Show, Good Morning America and the Today Show.

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erinmerryn.net

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**PARENTS AND CHILDREN TOGETHER**

*A family service agency*

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2017 FROM 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM**

YWCA Lanikea - Fuller Hall, 1040 Richard Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Tickets are $25

To Purchase please visit


***This event is not a CE event.***
Member Profile

Name: Amanda Hawkins
Agency name and location: Child and Family Service, Ewa Beach
Title: Honoring Kupuna Program Supervisor
Length of time at agency: 2.5 years total (1 year as Practicum Student)
School of social work: UH Manoa, Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work
Contact e-mail: akamakea@cfs-hawaii.org
Contact phone number: 808-543-8468

1. What is your agency's mission?
"Strengthening families and fostering the healthy development of children." Child and Family Service offers a wide range of services that serve Keiki to Kupuna. At CFS, we’re all about FAMILY!

2. What is your role at the agency?
To oversee the Senior Case Management program within the Honoring Kupuna Department to ensure that both agency and funding reports, as well as billing, are submitted on a timely basis. I also provide guidance and support to our direct service staff.

3. What population do you serve?
Kupuna aged 55 and older who live in either their own or a family residence.

4. What are some things you wished the general community would know or understand about your work or the population you work with?
I wish the financial hardships of our Kupuna were more widely understood (particularly around access to and cost of services). Many of our seniors face challenges with high medical costs on top of the high cost of living in Hawaii. We have observed that it is often difficult for seniors to afford the care that they may need because of these, and other factors. Additionally, the ability of service providers who offer free/low cost services is limited, despite the demand for such services being so high.

5. What are some “special needs” in your population that social workers need to be aware of?
I think some of the greatest needs in this population include meal assistance, cleaning services, transportation, and companionship.

6. Why are social workers important in your organization?
Social workers are important to an organization such as Child & Family service because they bring a unique perspective and skill set (such as?) to programs that can enhance the services that are being provided to the community.
7. How can others refer clients to your agency?

Referrals for Kupuna Case Management can be made through the Elderly Affairs Division at 768-7700. For information on other service offered by Child and Family Service, contact 681-3500.

8. Are there educational or licensing requirements placed on you by your organization?

Licensure is not required within the Honoring Kupuna Department. For the Case Manager and Supervisor positions, a Bachelors degree or higher from an accredited school in a social services field (such as social work, sociology, psychology, etc.) is required.

9. What particular skills do you feel are important in your line of work?

Active listening and communication is key when in this line of work. Not only is it important for us to actively listen to clients, who are often isolated and lack opportunities for socialization, but it is also important to listen to and effectively communicate with fellow staff members to ensure their needs are being met.

10. What do you find most satisfying about your job?

Having the opportunity to enhance the quality of life of Hawaii Kupuna.

11. What are some challenges you face in your role, and how do you overcome them?

One of the challenges I have faced in my role as supervisor has been the ability to juggle multiple tasks, while still being available to address staff members’ needs. One of the ways I overcome this challenge is by using to do lists and delegating certain tasks out to appropriate staff members.

12. What are your forms of self-care in this challenging work?

I try to exercise regularly and take time to connect with family and friends. I also enjoy binge watching The Office and Grey’s Anatomy.

13. How did you get into social work/this agency/this type of work?

When I first graduated from high school, I aspired to be an electrical engineer. After my first few years in college, I discovered that although I enjoyed working with numbers and technology, the career path I had chosen didn’t quite fit my goal to help others. I took some time to explore my options at the University, and after a year or so of research and self reflection, I discovered the School of Social Work at UH Manoa. I enrolled and began taking courses, and almost instantly knew it was a better fit. As I went through the program, I discovered how broad the field of social work is, and realized that I could still have some of the data and tech that initially drew me to engineering. From then on, I knew that I wanted to practice on the macro end of social work, striving to address policy and develop programs to address the needs of clients.

14. What do you feel is your most significant social work accomplishment?

I have recently been offered the position of Program Evaluation Specialist and will soon be transitioning into that role. I feel that this new milestone in my life may become my most significant social work accomplishment.

15. Why are you an NASW member?

I am a NASW member because I like knowing that I am part of a community that is there to provide support and resources to better help be in my career as a Social Worker.
Meet the NASW Hawai‘i Fall 2017 Practicum Interns

HOLLY ARROYO
NASW HAWAI‘I PRACTICUM INTERN

“With the increasing concern for our current political, environmental, and social climate, it is easy to see how one person can feel overwhelmed with the impact these events can have on individuals, families, and communities. Social workers may find themselves asking: What does this mean? Who does this affect? And What can I do? My hope for this blog is to provide information, insight, and resources in addressing these issues.”

Lives in Ewa Beach, HI
Originally from New Orleans, Louisiana

Enjoys the beach, movies, cooking, reading, traveling and learning

Advanced Standing MSW Student specializing in Behavioral Mental Health at University of Hawai‘i at Manoa

Experience working with the elderly and adults with disabilities in hospital and community settings

Blogger, researcher, and social justice advocate

“We must always take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented”

-Elie Wiesel

Follow her thoughts and practicum journey

JENALYN CAMAGONG
NASW HAWAI‘I PRACTICUM INTERN

“My daily motivation stems out from knowing I can chose to make a difference in an individual’s life, a family, and even the community. I found passion in the Social Work environment to chase after Social Justice and I believe I found my purpose in life.”

Born and raised in Hawaii
Currently residing in Aiea, HI

Food, spending quality time with loved ones, church, and music

Blogger, Social Justice Advocate

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology
MSW Student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, with the focus on Behavioral Mental Health

Intake/Case Coordinator at the Office of the Public Defender for the Community Outreach Court Program.

“Integrity is choosing courage over comfort; choosing what is right over what is fun, fast, or easy; and choosing to practice our values rather than simply professing them.”

-Brené Brown
Upcoming CEU opportunities:

**How to Communicate Your Results Effectively (O‘ahu) 3 CEUs**

Date & time: November 17, 2017, 9am-12pm
Location: HPU, Hawaii Loa Campus, 45-045 Kamehameha Hwy, Kaneohe
Cost: students $25, all others $45

**Staff with a Trauma-Informed Approach (O‘ahu) 3 CEUs**
Cost: students $25, all others $45

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**Monthly Continuing Education Series**

**CHILD SEX ASSAULT** presented by Terri Lum, MSW, LSW

Wednesday, October 18, noon-1pm
Free for members, 1 CEU provided
https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4058562786456878593
NASW Offers Free Training on Newly Revised Code of Ethics

Wed, Oct 25, 2017 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM HST

Please Visit www.socialworkers.org to Register

or use the link below

https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6289851210564638979

Mahalo to Everyone Who attended September’s Social Work Social Hour: Yoga and Wine!!!
Elizabeth Jessamine
Kauikeolani Low Lucas
(1895-1986)

Elizabeth, also known as Clorinda, was an enabler. She was Hawaii’s Jane Addams. A descendant of Hawaiian and Tahitian royalty and of King Kamehameha I, Corinda was born just after the Hawaiian monarchy was overthrown and three years before Hawaii was annexed by the United States. She learned early the meaning of the fundamental difference between basic values of her Hawaiian heritage—caring, sharing, trusting relationships, cooperation in work and in play—and the values of competition and achievement as the measures held by the Caucasians.

Guiding her wide-ranging professional activity was the long term goal of the community, a society that would value and respect all people and would be socially just for all. Her concern was that all children have the opportunity to develop the necessary skills, a personal sense of values and opportunity to guide daily living, and problem solving capacities that would enable them to take social responsibility for themselves, and as citizens, to maintain humane and just society for the future.

For three years following her graduation from Smith College (BA degree) in 1917, Mrs. Lucas worked in New York City for the national board of the YWCA in the Division of Education for Foreign-born Women. She was the first Hawaiian to have professional social work education. After she received the Diploma (equivalent to MSW) from the New York School (now Columbia University School of Social Work) in 1937, she returned to Hawaii as the Oahu County Chief of the relatively new Department of Public Welfare, then as director of Public Child Welfare. In 1943, she was asked to develop a pupil guidance program (school social work) in the state Department of Public Instruction. She served as director until she retired in 1960.

Mrs. Lucas was the first woman to be selected as a member and rotating chair of the board of trustees of the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, which serves orphaned and destitute Hawaiian children. With her leadership, units of the Queen Liliuokalani Children’s Center were established on the main Hawaiian Islands. Mrs. Lucas served as president of the board of directors of Kapiolani Children’s and Maternity Hospital, chair of the State Commission on Children and Youth, chair of the Kamehameha Schools Advisory Council, international president of the Pan Pacific and Southeast Asian Women's Association. Her many awards include: Smith College Distinguished Alumni Award, the Distinguished Service Award for Home, School and Community Services of the Hawaii Congress of the PTA, the David Malo Award of the West Honolulu Rotary Club, the Francis E. Clark Award of the Hawaii Personnel and Guidance Association. In 1979, Mrs. Lucas was named a Living Treasure of Hawaii by the Buddhist Honpa Hongwanji Mission.
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