Aoyst 2014 Newsletter

School News

Message from Dean Cathryn Potter

Dear School of Social Work alumni and friends,

This year we will celebrate “60 Years of the School of Social Work,” with an Alumni Reception on November 6 at the New Brunswick campus. The School was chartered in 1954, a year when the first mass vaccine of children against polio began, Senator Joseph McCarthy began hearings investigating the Army for being “soft” on Communism, and The Miss America Pageant was broadcast on television for the first time. Flash forward to current day, and we have grown to one of the largest schools of social work in the country, educating and training nearly 1,600 professional social workers annually.

In this issue of E-News, we feature a story about our thriving Intensive Weekend program. Between the four Intensive Weekend sites that the School of Social work offers, anyone looking to pursue a MSW degree can find a location that fits into a busy schedule.

We also are pleased to announce that the School of Social Work recently accepted the 2014 Academic Excellence Award for Outstanding Education and Training in Human Services as conferred by the American Public Human Services Association at their National Policy Forum. Our partnerships with the state have improved service quality and delivery for many.

Best wishes for a pleasant month and thank you for your continued support of Rutgers School of Social Work.

Sincerely,

Cathryn C. Potter, MSW, PhD
Dean and Professor
Stay Up-To-Date and Connected To the School of Social Work at Rutgers

Rutgers School of Social Work graduates can gain more than nostalgia by visiting the School of Social Work alumni website. The site provides a way to stay connected and offers a wide range of job and social opportunities.

Looking for career advancement in social work? Check out the alumni site for up-to-date employment opportunities at Rutgers and beyond. The site contains detailed information about a variety of jobs in diverse fields.

Trying to hire a social work professional from the accredited university where you received your degree? Submit a job to the alumni page and provide accomplished alumni even more opportunity by extending their professional reach. It is a great way to give back to your fellow alumni, the School of Social Work, and to your company or organization.

Or are you hoping to connect with old classmates and keep up with SSW news or events? You can stay connected in a variety of different ways: through Facebook, or let the school know what you are up to by emailing us at alumni@ssw.rutgers.edu. Beyond social media and email, you can receive consistent updates about alumni and the SSW in general by checking out the past and present issues of the Alumni Newsletters and Magazine. The site also makes it quick and easy to read up on alumni through the Alumni Profile tab on the website.

No matter how you are trying to connect with the Rutgers School of Social Work, the Alumni page can get you there at http://socialwork.rutgers.edu/Alumni/AlumniNetwork.aspx.

SSW Receives the APHSA Award

On June 16, Bill Waldman and Mia Sena, on behalf of the School of Social Work, accepted the 2014 Academic Excellence Award for Outstanding Education and Training in Human Services as conferred by the American Public Human Services Association at their National Policy Forum. Commissioner Jennifer Velez of the NJ Department of Human Services presented the award on behalf of her department along with the Department of Children and Families. She enumerated all of the partnerships that the School has with the state and highlighted mutual endeavors relative to Child Support Enforcement, Child Welfare, the ACT program, research conducted in the area of mental health, substance abuse and various training initiatives. Photo: Mia Sena, Director of Education And Training of Institute for Families; Bill Waldman, lecturer and executive in residence; Tracy Wareing , Executive Director of APHSA; President of the Board of APHSA, Reggie Bicha, Director of the Colorado Department of Human Services.
Intensive Weekend Works With You

Between the four Intensive Weekend sites that the Rutgers School of Social work offers, anyone looking to pursue a Masters in social work (MSW) can find a location that fits into their busy schedule.

Learn more information [here](#).

The Sandy Child and Family Health Study Researches Long-term Effects of the Superstorm on the Health and Well-being of NJ Residents

The damage caused during Superstorm Sandy in 2012 was immediate, but the aftershocks for New Jersey residents continue in the form of enduring health, economic, environmental and social impacts. To better understand these effects, the New Jersey Department of Health is supporting a joint research team from Rutgers University and Columbia University to conduct The Sandy Child and Family Health (S-CAFH) Study, one of the largest disaster recovery projects and assessments in the region. The research will examine the potential long-term effects of Sandy on the health and well-being of state residents exposed to the storm and also shed light on what has helped or hindered people in their ongoing recovery.

Learn more information [here](#).
Rutgers, Verizon Team Up to Provide Lifeline for Domestic Abuse Survivors – and Boon for Environment

When is a cell phone more than a cell phone? When it enables a survivor of domestic or dating abuse to reclaim her life. Close to 2,000 refurbished cell phones are in the hands of formerly vulnerable women and men thanks to a partnership launched in 2008 between Rutgers and Verizon Wireless.

The used phones, dropped off in bins placed strategically on the university’s major campuses in New Brunswick, Camden and Newark, have been wiped free of existing numbers and loaded with 3,000 minutes of nationwide calling or texting.

Learn more information here.

SSW Field Work Provides Experience for Life

About the opportunities for field placement offered by the Rutgers School of Social Work, executive director of Field Education Mark Lamar said, “You imagine it, we are there.” The SSW sends students to over 1,000 organizations in the New Jersey, New York and Philadelphia area. Students can be found in environments ranging from schools, hospitals, prisons, homeless shelters to government offices. For the first time ever, a student is being placed at a private, for-profit pharmaceutical company called Celgene Corporation. In addition, in the fall twenty students will be placed in Newark public schools. About this news, Lamar said, “It’s really a home run for us. We want our students in Newark.”

Learn more information here.

SSW Student Named Miss New Jersey

The fourth try has proven to be a charm for Rutgers University student Cierra Kaler-Jones, who was named Miss New Jersey. Her perseverance despite a hip disability has led the rising senior to her next competition, Miss America. Kaler-Jones, who is studying social work through the School of Arts and Sciences honors program and is a member of the Douglass Residential College for women, heads to Atlantic City in a few months to compete against the other state contestants.

Read the rest of the article here.
Romania Study Center for Global Education Trip

On the recent International Service Learning (ISL) trip to Romania, 17 Rutgers students not only had the opportunity to flex their social work muscles, but also got to enjoy beautiful scenery and experience a culture far different from their own. The trip is held in conjunction with a course in the School of Social Work called, “Romania’s Revolution:Investing in Children and Families Across the Life Cycle.”

Read the rest of the article here.

Field Education Joint Training Session

The Field Education Faculty in Newark, Associate Director Trinay Thomas and Field Education Coordinator, Mary Beth Ali, conducted a joint training session on June 12, with 17 Newark Public School social work staff members, to create multiple field placements for Fall 2014.

Read the rest of the article here.

Anne Smollon: Keeping the ME in Mommy

After having her first child, MSW Rutgers alumna Anne Smollon felt as though she was, “Missing in Action” from her life. “I would look in the mirror and think, “Who am I? Why am I not combing my hair or washing my clothes?” She would hide from her loved ones, afraid for them to think that he was not happy with them, her growing baby, or her life in general.

Read the rest of the article here.

For more information and updates, please like the SSW Facebook, follow the SSW on Twitter, or subscribe to the SSW Youtube channel.