

OUR SECOND ANNIVERSARY

We began SBW Partners in 2006 with the hope of helping to advance social work practice in aging - a commitment to preserving the best of our profession's past while embracing and building upon the best of its present. We believed that our decades of experience could be useful in attaining these goals.

Two years later we reflect on those we have met along the way:

- The agency executive developing cutting edge programs
- The department head/ program manager improving service delivery systems
- The supervisor helping her staff learn and grow on the job
- The mentor sharing his experience and practice wisdom
- The frontline worker going "above and beyond" her job description
- The employee assistance director seeking workplace support for family caregivers
- The home health aide sensitively providing hands-on personal care

We are grateful for the opportunity to both help and learn from them.

In our third year, we plan further development and implementation of our Resident Trainer Model[®] as well as branching out in exciting new directions. The following associates have expanded our capacity. Their numbers are growing.

Renee Solomon, DSW, ACSW, was an Associate Professor at Columbia University School of Social Work from 1975 until 2002. She has received numerous honors for her teaching and work with the elderly including Outstanding Professor at CUSSW and the Lydia Rapaport Distinguished Visiting Professorship at Smith College School of Social Work. She has authored numerous articles and taught about clinical practice, social gerontology, social work with groups, practice with women and intergenerational practice. She currently serves as consultant to various social service organizations and has a private psychotherapy practice.



Elise Feuerstein Karras, LMSW, CSW-G, ACSW has been working in the field of aging since 1978. She has held positions in community agencies as well as in the business community. Working in corporate eldercare for over 10 years, she has not only consulted with employees on aging issues, but has helped develop programs and conferences to support employees/caregivers. Her articles have appeared in industry publications such as *Small Business Reports* and the *Federico Newsletter*. She is a founding member of the Eldercare Taskforce of the New York Business Group on Health, past president of the Manhattan Borough-Wide InterAgency Council on Aging, and has presented papers on managing work and eldercare at various conferences, including the New York State Society on Aging and the Society for Human Resource Management, amongst others.



Nelson Burros, LMSW has spent his 35 years as a social worker and administrator in the field of aging in a diversity of settings, including nearly 25 years with the Hebrew Home for the Aged at Riverdale, primarily as the Director of Social Services at its main campus. In that capacity he oversaw the operations of the Admissions Department, and later became administratively responsible for the Religious Affairs and Volunteer Departments. Prior to that, he directed Project SCOPE, a large Title III Program at Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, serving homebound and isolated older adults. Nelson was also a community organization social worker for Montefiore Hospital, helping local community groups and agencies develop and coordinate services and activities for older adults. Nelson has co-authored several articles for professional journals, participated in numerous conference presentations, and created organizational newsletters. He was also the host and producer of the Hebrew Home's award-winning public access television program, "You Should Live So Long." Nelson earned his MSW at the Hunter College School of Social Work.



Thalia MacMillan, LMSW received her MSW in 1998 with a concentration in Research. Her field placement was with Lighthouse International, where her Master's thesis was on caregivers of the visually impaired. Since graduation, Thalia has worked as a research coordinator for Lighthouse International for over 7 years and is currently a research coordinator at Lehman College. Her work both at the Lighthouse and at Lehman has focused on mental health issues, specifically depression and anxiety. As a research coordinator, she focuses on data collection, management, and analysis. Thalia also is an adjunct research professor in the Graduate School of Social Service at Fordham University. She also consults on data management and analyses issues for several projects, including an anxiety intervention with elderly homecare recipients, currently being conducted at the Institute of Gerontology at SUNY Albany. Thalia has several publications through her work at the Lighthouse, including the effect of spirituality on use of rehabilitation services and use of adaptive devices to cope with vision impairment. She is now starting to pursue her doctoral degree at Fordham's Graduate School of Social Work Doctoral Program.



Leslie Chabon Wiesner, LCSW received her MS from Columbia University School of Social Work in 1974. Her postgraduate training certificate is from Downstate Medical School Department of Psychiatry in Sex and Couples Therapy and was awarded in 1980. Her extensive involvement in social work education spans almost thirty years and includes classroom and field education instructing and training. She has been on faculty at CUSSW since 1980 where she divides her time between teaching academic courses as an Adjunct Senior Lecturer and serving as an Assistant Director of Field Education. In addition, she has taught and consulted at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. As a private practitioner, she has worked for over thirty years as a clinician, presenter, trainer and consultant specializing mostly in the fields of sex and couples therapy, women's issues, depression, caregiving and clinical supervision.



Friedhilde Milburn, LMSW, during 30 years in senior housing and social services founded the West Side Federation for Senior Services and Housing, West Side One Stop for Coordinated Senior Services and Health Advocates for Older People. Health Advocates built the first not-for-profit enriched housing residence on Manhattan's Upper East Side, and initiated the Healthy Aging Program for stay-at-home seniors. Whilst with the NYC Department for the Aging, and with the Jamaica Service Program for Older Adults, she advocated for Medicare and SSI rights, for Rent Increase Exemptions, for Reduced Fares, and for accessible buses. In 2005, Friedhilde Milburn retired after 20 years as Executive Director for James Lenox House, an executive residence for independent seniors. Her honors include: Executive of the Year Award from NY Association for Homes and Services for the Aging, Woman of the Year Award from New York Commission on the Status of Women, and 2007 Sid Spector Award from NCOA's National Institute for Senior Housing.



Frances Coyle Brennan, LCSW, is the Director of Social Services at the Mary Manning Walsh Home in New York City. She was formerly an adjunct lecturer at Columbia University School of Social Work and is currently associated with Fordham University. She has over three decades of experience with the elderly in community and institutional settings including supervisory and administrative positions at the Jewish Home and Hospital and has written and presented extensively on issues in aging. She is the co-author, with Ann Burack-Weiss, of *First Encounters Between Elders and Agencies: A Practice Guide* and *Gerontological Social Work Supervision: A Social Work Perspective in Case Management and Direct Care (2nd Edition, 2008)*.

