

BIG BEND UNIT NEWS

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

December has been a busy month for the Big Bend Unit. Many thanks to those who came to the Holiday Open House in December. It was great to see members, old and new, including faculty from both FSU and FAMU. Also a HUGE thank you to the members that helped local foster youth by providing gifts for the holiday season. Big Bend Community Based Care was very appreciative of our efforts, as were the children and their caregivers. It's always great to see social work in action!

Our unit won't be slowing down in the next few months, with CE trainings beginning January 19th. In 2012, our unit meetings/trainings will be held on the third Thursday of each month at the Leon County Human Services Center on the corner of Tharpe Street and Old Bainbridge Road. Meetings typically last 1.5 hours and are a brown bag event, yet some events are longer.

As we welcome the new year, please consider getting more involved with the local unit. There are so many ways in which you can serve. Contact our Unit Chair, Cori Bauserman, at cori70@comcast.net for more information.

SOCIAL WORK AWARDS

It's that time of year again when we, as the NASW-FL Big Bend Unit, recognize a few people in our area who have served the community in an especially noteworthy way. We are currently accepting nominations, through January 10, 2012, for the following awards:

- Social Worker of the Year
- Student Social Worker of the Year
- Public Citizen of the Year
- Elected Official of the Year
- Educator of the Year

Please note that the Social Worker of the Year,

Student Social Worker of the Year, and Educator of the Year nominees must be current NASW members. We encourage you to submit names for any of these respected awards. Check your e-mail for the nomination form or request one by e-mail from Lisa Moody at lisapmoody@comcast.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Here's what's coming up:

January 19th: "Legal Issues that Mental Health Professionals Face: Preparing Yourself for the Courtroom" with Laura Sterling, LCSW, Esq. This training is from 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. and will be held at the Leon Human Services Center. Cost of this training is \$30 for members, \$45 for non-members, and \$25 for students or unlicensed professionals. Meets ethics requirements.

February 16th: "Domestic Violence and its Effect on Children," presented by Theresa Sawyer, JD. This training is from 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. and will be held at the Human Services Bldg. This training is free to members. Non members wanting CE credit will be charged \$15.

March 15th: "Ethical Practice: A Social Worker's Best Defense Against Malpractice," presented by the NASW Assurance Services, Inc., which meets medical errors requirements. This training is from 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m., followed by the Social Work Month awards luncheon. This event will be held at Goodwood Plantation. Please watch for a future postcard detailing the day's events.

