

#### University of Tennessee, Knoxville

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**UT College of Social Work** 

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OFFICE OF CONTINUING SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION AND ALUMNI AFFAIRS

Vol. 5, No. 6

BBB

School of Social Work

December 1980

For 1981-82 Year

# School Begins Aggressive Recruitment

The Nashville, Memphis and Knox-ville Branches of the School have already begun intensive student recruitment efforts for the 1981-82 academic year. Approaches range from the traditional on-site visits to area colleges to the enlistment of alumni as "honorary recruiters."

The Nashville recruitment program has been described by Recruitment Committee Chairperson Bob Bonovich as

"concerted" and involves not only faculty but members of the student body, alumni and "friends." To that end, the Branch plans a mailing to alumni asking them to serve as honorary recruiters. Other efforts will include visits to area colleges, newspaper advertisements, radio and television public service announcements, booths at conferences, letters and visits to area agencies and a

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### A Season of Reflection

Dean Ben Granger

At the most recent Deans of Schools of Social Work Conference in Washington, DC, a panel representing funding bodies expressed concern that schools have been "self-serving" in their acquisition of funds. There was the view at the federal level that schools seek funds first for their own benefit and secondarily for the benefit of effective social programs and services.

Does our School present a self-serving image? During the holiday season this is certainly an appropriate time to reflect on this question. From my perspective, we have sought with integrity to meet our basic objective of developing, carrying out and evaluating our educational program—a program that is practice-effective and relevant, focused on educating persons who are committed to serving the client first, to improving their social functioning and to preventing and reducing social problems. Our faculty demonstrate this through their continued involvement in the community, public service, practice, research and consultation.

On the other hand, we compete for grants and engage in seeking the federal dollar. We play the grantsmanship game to improve and enlarge our basic mission

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## **Certification Program Approved**

The School's proposal for a school social worker certification program has been approved by the Tennessee Department of Education and is now accepting applications. Official notification was received in the fall and announced by Dean Ben Granger at the schoolwide retreat. Approval of the program was based upon the plan submitted to the Tennessee Department of Education, which issues the certificates on the School's recommendation, and a site visit.

The certification program will be centralized in the Dean's office and will function in a similar fashion to the School's admission process. Applications are to be submitted to the Dean's office. A School Social Work Certification Committee will then review the applications and be responsible for either (1) approving and sending the recommendation to the Tennessee Department of Education; (2) prescribing a course of study to fulfill requirements for certification; or (3) denying the application.

To be eligible for consideration of School Social Work Certification, candidates must have an MSW, either from the University of Tennessee School of Work or another nationallyaccredited social work program. In addition, candidates must meet the following minimum competency requirements in relation to: values, skills and knowledge base; assessment; methods: foundations of education; utilization of interdisciplinary approach; theories and child development; the ecology of the pupil; evaluation of effectiveness; and integrating knowledge and methods into professional practice. Students currently enrolled in the School's MSW program will work with their academic committee to define a program of study which meets the required competencies.

Application packets, which are available through the Dean's office, include: a program verification form; an application for Tennessee Teachers Pro-

fessional Certificate, and a competency summary statement.

Appointed to the School's Social Work Certification Committee are Peggy Strong, chairperson, Joanne Jankovic, Hugh Vaughn and Irving Faust. Representing the College of Education on the Committee is Assistant Dean Tom George.

Inquiries concerning the certification program should be directed to: Dean's Office, University of Tennessee School of Social Work, 2014 Lake Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37916.

#### Reflection . . .

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because of scarce resources and multiple priorities. However while we do this, we have always been clear on the basic objectives relating to human concerns and benefit of the consumer or client.

In this respect we are more serving than self-serving, wanting to remain vital, true to our convictions and differing from others who challenge us. Let's continue in the best social work tradition to serve others.

Best season and holiday wishes now and throughout the year.

# Fraud, Waste and Abuse: Watchwords for the 80s

Over 100 people attended the 3rd Annual Conference of the National Association of Social Workers, Tennessee Chapter, held in Gatlinburg, November 13-15, 1980. The theme of the conference, "Growth in the 80's: The Person and the Profession" was addressed in several presentations.

Jerry Hissong, Program Director, American Public Welfare Association, focused on implications for growth in the coming decade. "Answers to the future," stated Hissong, "lie in the past." He urged the profession to examine problems emerging from the 70s such as the energy shortage, growing inflation and changing life styles, in an attempt to understand where we are as a society. With that understanding, he said, the profession will be in a better position to identify those forces which impact the structure and direction of social work in the coming decade.

Three watchwords were projected by Hissong for the coming years: fraud, waste and abuse. Belt-tightening programs and efficiency efforts will mushroom in the country. Accountability will be necessary in the work place and especially in the public sector. Abuse of people and programs will no longer be tolerated.

Among the projections for the welfare system in the coming decade Hissong included: (1) a needy-only philosophy will prevail which will be translated into policy; (2) a war on fraud, especially in the public welfare sector; (3) accountability of services and of programs; (4) establishment and enforcement of work requirements; (5) discontinuation of aid to strikers and students; (6) work incentives tied to industry; (7) strict enforcement of

dependent support requirements; and (8) a shift from federal to state, local and private funding sources for service programs.

Another general session presenter, Leontine Young, a child welfare expert of national renown, pointed out that "the social work profession will have to live with a lot of things we can't control" in the next few years. She believes professionals will not be popular because of a shift of emphasis away from the poor and people with problems. "We can, however, be respected. The challenge to the profession is to develop confidence in what we do and in how we do it," she stated.

Ms. Young suggested that social workers keep their sense of perspective and remember that both survival and growth depend on adaptability.

The NASW Committee on Inquiry composed of members from across the country met in Gatlinburg during the Conference and were able to contribute a few hours from their busy schedule to conduct a workshop for chapter members. Other workshops included Epidemiology in Social Work Practice, Practice Focus on the White House Conference on Children, Confidentiality, How Malpractice is Hitting Social Workers, Child Welfare Tomorrow, Reminiscense Therapy: Methodology for Practice, and the Politics of Political Action.

Students who attended the conference met together and heard a presentation by Leontine Young.

Conference attendees exhibited much interest in political action and a large number met with Carol Sheffer, NASW Staff Associate, to organize a Political Action Committee for the chapter.

## Dr. Cleckley Heads Black College Initiative

Dr. Betty Cleckley, on a two-year leave of absence as Associate Dean of the School of Social Work, is spearheading implementation of the President's Black College Initiative. She is on assignment to the Office of Special Populations in the Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration (ADAMHA), which is part of the National Institute of Mental Health in Washington, DC.

The Black College Initative emanated from President Carter's January 1979 memorandum to federal agency heads. In August of this year he signed an executive order which acknowledges the contribution of black colleges and universities to the nation's social, economic and political development. The order calls on agencies to strengthen and improve the country's approximately 100 black public and private institutions.

Dr. Cleckley's responsibility, under the Intergovenmental Personnel Act, is to facilitate developments within the ADAMHA. She plans to assess the ADAMHA's current objectives, programs and plans with respect to black colleges and universities, and to develop approaches to stimulating the development of personnel, training programs and research and development projects applicable to black populations.

She will provide consultation to ADAMHA's three institutes (Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, Drug Abuse, Mental Health) to develop more effective ways of awarding contracts and grants to black colleges. She also will arrange technical assistance to black colleges and universities to expand their capabilities in competing for the agency's research and demonstration funds.

Specifically, the President's order made the following recommendations: 1) review contract and grant programs to assure that black institutions are not unintentionally excluded; 2) set targets and annual goals to increase black college participation in federally-sponsored programs; 3) establish a forum to in-

crease communication between federal officials and institution representatives; 4) appoint an official to oversee activity in the department or agency and act as liaison to White House staff; and 5) prepare an annual report to the President to document participation levels of black institutions and recommend improvements in federal response.

#### TTTTT

#### **United Way Seminars Begin**

The United Way of Greater Knox-ville, Inc., and OCSWE are cosponsoring a series of ten training workshops for United Way volunteer board members. These workshops, designed to enhance the effectiveness of agency board members, grew out of a needs assessment conducted in 1979.

With the increasingly complex nature of agency operation, purpose, program development and survival in a competitive environment, a more knowledgeable board of directors is able to have a significant impact on the quality and quantity of services provided to the community.

The first session, held on November 20, focused on the importance of boards today, the roles and responsibilities of members and the concept of power within the community. Instructors for this session were Ben P. Granger, Dean of the School; Creasie Hairston, Associate Director of OCSWE; and George Ayers, Knoxville faculty member. The second session, "The Legal Aspects of Agency Operation," was conducted by Ronald Green, JD, ACSW, Director of OCSWE. Ed Hoskins, Superintendent of Knoxville Utilities Board, Accounts, conducted the third training session, "Assessing the Physical Plant."

The financial management of agencies will be discussed during upcoming sessions of the series. Other topics included in the series are board and staff relationships, standards for board performance, the board as a work group and the board and community.

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#### Recruitment . . .

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nationwide mailing to undergraduate social welfare programs.

"Our effort is both to recruit and to inform our public that the Nashville Branch is alive and well," Dr. Bonovich said. We have maintained a very dynamic program in very stable and adequate surroundings in Clement Hall on the TSU campus since March 1974. The administration of TSU has been most supportive of us."

For more information regarding the Nashville recruitment program, or to enlist as an "honorary recruiter," contact: Recruitment Office, UT School of Social Work, Nashville Branch, P.O. Box 90440, Nashville, TN 37209.

A highlight of the Memphis Branch recruitment program will be a Career Symposium in February 1981, sponsored by the Memphis Minority Affairs Committee. The symposium is designed to provide prospective students with information regarding the UTSSW program through interaction with both faculty and students during the full-day program. Students from undergraduate programs in the area are invited and lunch will be provided by UTSSW.

The Minority Affairs Committee has also produced a recruitment videotape to be shown to prospective students. In that tape, the following activities are highlighted: information and pictures of the three branches; student role playing exercises; a field instructor/student supervisory conference; faculty/student discussion on admission procedures, financial aid, types of programs and practicum; and highlights of the Memphis community.

In addition, Memphis branch faculty will visit the following schools to make contacts with undergraduate faculty and to recruit students: Claflin College, Orangeburg, SC; Jackson State University, Jackson, MS; Mississippi Valley State University, Itta Bena, MS; Tougaloo College, Tougaloo, MS; Alcorn State University, Lorman, MS; Rust College, Holly Springs, MS; University of Mis-

sissippi; University of Arkansas at Little Rock; Philander Smith College, Little Rock, AR; UT-Martin; Lambuth College, Lane College, Union University, Jackson, TN; and in Memphis, Memphis State University, Southwestern, LeMoyne-Owen College and Christian Brothers College.

The Memphis faculty has also participated in an Explorer Scout Program designed to acquaint junior and senior high school students with professions active in health care. In this program, faculty meet with small groups of students, show a tape which demonstrates social workers' roles in health care, lead discussion and role play. Inquiries about the Memphis program can be directed to: Dr. Kate Mullins, School of Social Work, University of Tennessee-Memphis, 1246 Union Ave., Memphis, TN 38104.

The Knoxville Branch plans to be represented at the annual Career Day on the UTK campus. In addition to cooperating with Knoxville College, visits are planned by faculty members to James Madison College in Virginia, Howard University in Washington, DC, and Kentucky State University. A representative will also be traveling to Chattanooga to visit area colleges and universities. For more information on the Knoxville program, contact: Dr. Roger Nooe, School of Social Work, University of Tennessee, 905 Mountcastle, Knoxville, TN 37916.

The Dean's office, in cooperation with the schoolwide Minority Affairs Committee, will facilitate coordination of recruitment efforts and will supplement Branch plans.

In addition to the regular two-year program leading to the MSSW degree, the three branches offer a three-year extended study program. The Nashville and Memphis Branches also offer a one-year accelerated program. Brochures and literature on all programs offered by the School can be obtained from three branches or the Dean's office.

# Spring Symposium Begins March 4

On March 4, 1981, the Spring Social Work Symposium, sponsored by the Office of Continuing Social Work Education, will get underway in Cookeville. A total of nine workshops will be presented across the state; three will be held in West Tennessee (Memphis and Jackson), three in Middle Tennessee (Nashville and Cookeville) and three in East Tennessee (Knoxville and Chattanooga).

The highlight of the Spring Symposium will be the two "Family Therapy" workshops conducted by Virginia Satir and other members of the Avanta Network. The Satir workshops will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Knoxville April 13-14, and in Memphis at the Rivermont April 15-16. one of the premiere pioneers of family therapy, is internationally recognized as an author, lecturer and therapist. She has earned special recognition for her efforts in the fields of family therapy and human relations and has developed methodologies and contributed many insights to both fields. In her work she has created more positive ways of dealing with human problems and has dedicated her life to teaching and training others in communcation methods and ways of building better family relationships.

The other two workshops to be held in West Tennessee are "Sexpressions: A New Approach to Sexuality," presented by Janice Wilson, PhD and "Foster Care: Other People's Children," conducted by Jim Jones.

Rita and Blair Justice, nationally recognized authorities on sex abuse and authors of The Abusing Family and The Broken Taboo: Sex in the Family, will conduct "Abusing Families: Dynamics and Treatment of Sexual Abuse of

Children" March 27 in Nashville. A workshop on "Techniques of Advanced Crisis Intervention" for trained, practicing professionals will be presented by Edward Rosenbluh, President, American Academy of Crisis Interveners, in Nashville April 2-3. The third workshop in Middle Tennessee, "Responding to the Developmental Needs of the Elderly" with O.H. Oliveira and Ronald K. Green, is scheduled March 4-5 in Cookeville. The issues of aging and change--physiological and mental--and the legal aspects and implications for service provision to older persons will be addressed.

Harry J. Aponte, a popular presenter with Tennessee audiences, will conduct "Underorganization in the Low Income Family" March 6 in Chattanooga. On March 13, Thomas P. Malone, author of The Roots of Psychotherapy, will present "The Intimate Dyad" in Knoxville. The session, cosponsored by the University of Tennessee Psychological Clinic, will focus on the themes of love, sexuality, responsibility, directness and vitality in relationships that are both therapeutic and familial.

Brochures on the Symposium containing complete registration information will be available in early January.

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### Stimulus

Executive Editor STIMULUS Editor Assistant Editor Editorial Consultants Ron Green Sally Johnson Ann R. Wilson Ben Granger Gid Fryer

STIMULUS is a quarterly publication of the UT School of Social Work. We welcome news and announcements from alumni, faculty, staff and from the field. Submit material to STIM-ULUS, Office of Continuing Social Work Education, 1838 Terrace Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37916.

# Spring Symposium Schedule

Date	Title	Presenter	Location
March 4-5	Responding to the Developmental Needs of the Elderly Fee - \$35, CEUs .8	O.H. Oliveira Ronald K. Green	Cookeville
March 6	Underorganization in the Low Income Family Fee - \$30, CEUs .5	Harry J. Aponte	Chattanooga
March 13	The Intimate Dyad Fee - \$35, CEUs .5	Tom Malone	Knoxville
March 27	Abusing Families: Dynamics and Treatment of Sexual Abuse of Children Fee - \$35, CEUs .5	Blair Justice Rita Justice	Nashville
March 27	Sexpressions: A New Approach to Sexuality Fee - \$30, CEUs .6	Janice Wilson	Memphis
April 2-3	Techniques of Advanced Crisis Intervention Fee -\$45, CEUs 1.0	Edward S. Rosenbluh	Nashville
April 13-14	Family Therapy Fees - \$60-\$80, CEUs .9	Virginia Satir and The Avanta Network	Knoxville
April 15-16	Family Therapy Fees - \$60-\$80, CEUs .9	Virginia Satir and The Avanta Network	Memphis
April 27	Foster Care: Other People's Children Fee - \$30, CEUs .6	Jim Jones	Jackson

### Spring Symposium . . .

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STIMULUS subscribers will receive these

automatically.

For additional information on the Symposium or to register for workshops, please contact: Peggie L. Carey, University of Tennessee School of Social Work, Office of Continuing Social Work Education, 1838 Terrace Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37916, (615) 974-6015.

напри New Year

### Memphis Grad First MSSW in "Big B"

Margaret Sullivan, a 1977 graduate of the Memphis Branch began work in late summer as the first professional social worker employed by Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis.

Although social workers have long been involved in Baptist Hospital's Rehabilitation Center (Lamar Unit), Ms. Sullivan is the first MSSW to be employed by the acute-care facility.

The "Big B," with 1,800 beds, ranks as the largest private hospital in the nation. It is second in admissions of all hospitals. Ms. Sullivan is involved with the 100-bed oncology unit of the hospital which includes surgery and chemotherapy patients. She spends much of her time in crisis work, giving emotional support to patients and families who have recently received a diag-



Margaret Sullivan

nosis of cancer. She is also involved with other staff members in group work with families and in-service training for nurses in addition to carrying several family therapy cases on an out-patient basis.

## Non-Credit Opportunities . \_ . \_ . \_ . \_

PROFESSIONAL BURNOUT IN CARE GIVERS TO THE TERMINALLY ILL. Conducted by Ted Dougherty, Director of Pastoral Counseling and Training, North Carolina Baptist Hospital. February 25 and repeated February 26, 1981 in Tuscaloosa. Contact: Dr. Peter Balsamo, Director of Continuing Education in Human Services, University of Alabama, Box 2967, University, AL 35486.

ADOLESCENT SEXUALITY: HEALTH, SOCIAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL ASPECTS. Keynote speaker is Dr. Susan Fischman, University of Maryland School of Medicine. March 19, 1981 in Tuscaloosa. Contact: Dr. Peter Balsamo, Director of Continuing Education in Human Services, University of Alabama, Box 2967, University, AL 35486.

MEDICAL ASPECTS OF ALCOHOLISM. Taught by Dr. Douglas Talbott of Ridgeview Institute in Atlanta, and Dr. Joseph Pursch of Care Manor Hospital in Orange, California. March 26, 1981 in Tuscaloosa. Contact: Dr. Peter Balsamo, Director of Continuing Education in Human Services, University of Alabama, Box 2967, University, AL 35486.

FOURTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON THE SMALL CITY AND REGIONAL COMMUNITY Purpose: To combine research and practice in dealing with multi-dimensional aspects of life in small cities. Proceedings will be published. Deadline for submissions is December 1, 1980. March 26-27, 1981, Stevens Point, Wisconsin Contact: Robert P. Wolensky or Edward J. Miller, Fourth Floor, Collins Building, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Stevens Point, Wisconsin 54481.

### Two Students Awarded Legislative Internships

Two second-year UTSSW students are among the five recipients of legislative internships awarded by the UT National Alumni Association. Dewey Matherly, a Knoxville Branch student, and Joyce Jennings, a student at the Nashville Branch, will each be working with a state legislator during the 1981 legislative session.

The internship is a period of work (under the guidance of a UTK faculty member) with a state legislator during the 1981 session, along with a stipend of \$1,500 from the UT National Alumni Association. The five internships offered by UTK are open to either graduate or undergraduate students in any program of study.

The program provides students the opportunity to become involved in the legislative process of state government and, at the same time, participate in instruction, seminars and individual problem solving under the direction of a faculty member.

# Graduate Receives Two Certificates

Lauretta Lewis, a '74 graduate of the University of Tennessee, Nashville, and Associate Professor of Social Work at East Carolina University School of Allied Health and Social Professions, received two certificates in appreciation of her work with the Caswell Center Human Rights Committee.

The six-member committee works with the administration and advocacy office for resident rights at the Kinston school for handicapped children.

Ms. Lewis received a certificate of recognition from Caswell Center administration and a certificate of appreciation from Gov. James B. Hunt and Dr. Sarah Morrow, secretary of the North Carolina Department of Human Resources.

## Dr. Landon Joins Memphis Faculty

Dr. Pamela S. Landon joined the Memphis faculty this fall to teach Social Policy and Community Organization. She had formerly taught at the University of Denver on both the doctoral and master's level.

She was born in New York City, pursued her undergraduate education in Eastern schools and received her AB from Barnard College. Following fifteen years experience in marketing and merchandising, she began her social work career as a social services caseworker in northern New York. When her family relocated to Colorado, she obtained her master's degree from the University of Denver and worked in medical social work, child welfare and community mental health before returning for her doctorate.

At Denver, she taught doctoral theory and methodology and program evaluation. Extremely interested in curriculum development, she developed a new second-year specialization option in Integrated Social Work Practice, curriculum offerings in communication theory, program evaluation, the accelerated program and a program in substance abuse.

She has been active in program evaluation, training and consultation and currently conducts training for the University of Alabama's Management Institute. She has been active and has written articles in the area of mental health and substance abuse, has served on the Governor's Advisory Council in Colorado, and headed the State's Women's Task Force. Dr. Landon has recently been appointed a member of the Initial Review Group of the National Institute on Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse by Dr. John DeLuce.

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## Alumnae Members of Permanency Planning Team

A successful first year was reported by members of the Permanency Planning Team, a group composed of UTSSW graduates and students who are developing and implementing permanent plans for children in foster care. The project was created by the Shelby County Department of Human Services on November 1, 1979, and selection of team members reflected the agency's desire to provide opportunities for recent MSW graduates in a "challenging situation."

Four of the seven team members are UTSSW-Memphis graduates: Judy Hicks (team supervisor), Monica Moore, Von Rayford and Gwen Richardson. James Heron is a part-time UTSSW student and Rhonda Johnson has been accepted into the accelerated program. Dawnelle Hurd, the seventh member, has a master's degree in sociology. Two other UTSSW alumnae, Diane Hurth and Reginald Burton, were team members for four months of the program until March 1980.

"Permanency planning," as an overall agency focus, developed from the nationwide impetus to decrease the length of time children spend in foster care by moving them more quickly either toward reunion with their families or, when that is not possible, toward another permanent home. The team approach to case management and lower caseloads allowing for intensive comprehensive services to these families contributed significantly to the high number of successes the Permanency Planning Team reported.

In the group's first year, 77 children were served. Although 18 had been in care less than one month when referred to the team, the remaining 59 had spent a total of 132 years in foster care, which takes on a different meaning considering 50 of the 77 children were six years old or younger.

Team members were pleased to report that 25 children whose hopes of going home were slim a year ago when the program began, are now reunited with their families. Of the other 52 children the team served, four will go home within three months; two have been adopted; twelve are free for adoption after termination of parental rights; termination proceedings for sixteen children's parents are underway; and eighteen are receiving intensive services needed to implement the permanent plan.

Team members have been supported in the project through a cooperative agreement between DHS and UTSSW's Memphis Branch which has provided faculty consultation. Faculty member Peg Hess has spent over 60 hours in consultation with the team, focusing on content related to permanency planning, the team's decision-making process and on specific cases. The team also provided field experiences for eight UTSSW students.

In addition to benefits realized by the children and families serviced through the team approach, other advantages were recognized as well. Innovative services such as socialization and sibling groups for foster children were utilized and an adolescent group is currently continuing. Team members developed expertise shared with other DHS employees and a crucial benefit from both employee and agency viewpoints is the increased worker satisfaction of utilizing previous graduate training on the project.



#### We'd Like To Serve You Better

In order to plan continuing education programs to meet your interests and demands, we need to know who you would like to hear and what topics should be addressed. Please take a few minutes to check the topics and presenters that appeal to you; feel free to add any information about presenters or topics not included. Tear off this page and return to: Peg L. Carey, Office of Continuing Social Work Education, 1838 Terrace Ave., Knoxville, TN 37916. Thank you for your cooperation.

Children and Youth		Therapies and Practice		
□ Thomas Gordon		Peggy Papp		
□ Richard Gardner	and apprentite -	Tom Malone		
□ Stella Chess		Cari Whitaker		
Rita and Blair Just		Murray Bowen		
□ Joy Johnson		Edwin Freidman		
	TO VIEW SSIES OF D	Philadelphia Child Guidance Clinic		
	5V16913 60 67	Representative		
		Ackerman Family Institute		
AND THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF		Representative		
Administration Mana	agement	Sheila Kessler		
		Augustus Napier		
□ Rosemary Sarri		Laura Epstein		
□ Alfred Kadushin		John Turner		
□ Alfred Kahn		Anne Minahan		
		Julia Rappaport		
		Heien H. Perlman		
		Muriel Janes		
Chaups		Elizabeth Kubler-Ross		
Groups				
□ Sheldon Rose				
Charles Garvin				
□ Ruth Middleman				
□ Margaret Hartford		Change and Development		
□ Helen Northern		Jack Rothman		
□ James Whitaker		Richard Cloward		
□ Howard J. Parad		Kienara Ciowara		
Comments				
Gerontology		Other topics		
□ O.H. Oliveira		Stress Management		
☐ Richard Douglass				
□ Marilyn Block				
□ Maggie Kuhn				
□ Ellen Winston				
My educational level:	BA/BS BSW	MSW MA/MS PhD		
My practice field:	DA/D3 D3W	MSW MA/MS PHD		
my practice field.	Health Mental	Health Corrections School Aging		
Agring Agring				
	Family/Child G	eneral Social Services Higher Ed. Other		

# 'Tis the Season to Create Santa Claus

Is there a Santa Claus? Many human service workers may face this holiday season feeling deserted by a country which is turning away from programs which care for persons in need, that the spirit of sharing with others is dead, that symbolically there simply is no Santa Claus.

It may be important to remember that even though the radical right may call for cuts in public funding of various social programs, for the most part they do not suggest we abandon persons in "real" need. There may be ritualistic posturing on how such needs can best be met but, at the same time, there is a certain congruence of ultimate objectives with human service pro-

fessionals in terms of fulfilling basic needs that encourage personal independence and enhance capacity.

We have survived and at times even flourished during times of substantial conservatism in the past. We are going to have to be even more proficient in what we do and how we account for it-and that may not be so bad. We need to be creative in maximizing opportunities of providing quality programs with measurable results. We must take the initiative in keeping the American people mindful of the reality of those in need and demonstrate how, in a time of scarcity, we can never afford not to create a Santa Claus.--RKG

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