



### Taking a stand against deregulation

BRUCE BUCHANAN, former ASWB president and former Iowa board chair, testified at a hearing against a bill that would have deregulated many professions in Iowa, including social work. Thanks in part to overwhelming opposition from the public and practitioners of the professions threatened with deregulation, the bill died in subcommittee.

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BRAHNA WILCZYNSKI took ASWB staff members CARA SANNER and JAYNE WOOD on a delightful side trip to Los Poblanos Inn and Organic Farm in Albuquerque, where they were greeted by a peacock in full display. The historic inn and restaurant are surrounded by acres of farmland where lavender and heirloom varieties of vegetables are grown organically.



### Booth travels

The ASWB booth is on the move in 2017, scheduled to make stops in eight jurisdictions this year. Social Work Month is always the busiest travel time, and four of the eight events took place in March. ASWB traveled to Williamsburg, Virginia, for the NASW-VA chapter conference, where Virginia board member JOE SALAY and executive director JAIME HOYLE stopped by to say hello. In Albuquerque, at the NASW-NM chapter conference, ASWB's booth was within shouting distance of the booth staffed by the New Mexico regulatory board staff and members. And in Minneapolis at the Minnesota Social Services Association conference, BILL ANDERSON, former

### association asides

Minnesota board member, stopped by and the Minnesota board made a great presentation.

Former exam development volunteers stopped by the ASWB booth in Albuquerque to say hello, including ELI FRESQUEZ, an Exam Committee chair, and EMMA ORTA, an item writer for the Bachelors exam. PAT TYRELL, retired NASW-NM chapter executive director, also stopped by to express appreciation for a visit by COO DWIGHT HYMANS in 2016 to discuss regulatory changes being considered for draft legislation.



*Pausing for a photo op at the NASW-NM conference: Cara Sanner (ASWB); Joe Maldonado, board administrator; Jayne Wood (ASWB); Brahna Wilczynski, board chair; and Carmen Noble, board staff.*

## More about Social Work Month

ASWB was a sponsor of Social Work Day on the Hill in Washington, D.C., which enabled regional member boards to attend the events. ROBIN JENKINS of Washington, D.C., and JAIME HOYLE of Virginia joined ASWB CEO MARY JO MONAHAN, COO DWIGHT HYMANS, and JENNIFER HENKEL. They also had the opportunity to gather for lunch to discuss regulatory issues with ASWB staff.

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## Taking the Mobility message to NABSW

President M. JENISE COMER and FRAN FRANKLIN of Delaware brought ASWB's Mobility message to attendees at the National Association of Black Social Workers (NABSW) conference in April. The session, titled Mobile Families—Mobile Workers: Policy Change Needed to Strengthen Families, explained how achieving practice mobility supports the profession and showed available ASWB resources and how they can be used.

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We need your input!

## What we heard... at New Board Member Training in Orlando

BETH LITTLE of Mississippi was ecstatic over the Mississippi State win over undefeated UConn in the women's college basketball Final Four championship. JENNIFER HENKEL, a diehard UConn fan, reported that she cried. BETH also brought her daughter with her, and the two enjoyed two trips to Universal Studios.

SANDRA HARKER of British Columbia said she drives 10+ hours to get to board meetings. Talk about dedication!

DANA ZAIS of Massachusetts gets the hat trick as a good regulator, mother, and daughter. She attended training, entertained her daughter who is at college in Tampa and drove over to visit, and stayed on to spend some time with her own mother, who lives in Florida.

RICHARD SILVER and MICHEL de OLIVEIRA had the same idea for escaping the cold, wintry conditions in Québec: Beach it! They each found a few days to enjoy sand and sun while in Florida.

SUE-ELLEN MERRITT of Ontario gets the "déjà vu" award. She was a member of the Ontario college when it was first formed and she's serving again.

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Guam member MYRNA LEON GUERRERO appeared upside down in her video feed during a recent Zoom conference session with ASWB staff. It was a relief to meet MYRNA right side up in Florida, JENNIFER noted.

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### **Busy day at the Candidate Services Center**

ASWB's Candidate Services Center had an extraordinary day on March 6! On an average Monday, we have a staff of eight to ten happy voices to answer the phones – however, the flu struck, leaving just four to handle the normal call volume. Throughout the day, 383 calls were successfully answered by our amazing team: LAUREN WILLIAMS, TESSA JONES, MICHELE SMITH, and VICKI SETTLE!

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### **Praise for ASWB's Candidate Services Center**

A social worker who is transgender stopped by the ASWB booth at an NASW conference to share how impressed he was by the professionalism of the ASWB representative who assisted him. He called to request a name change and anticipated that the request might be met with surprise or awkwardness. Instead, he said, there was no hesitation and he was treated respectfully.

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