

SOCIAL WORK AWARDS CRITERIA

Branch Level Awardees Are Honored During Celebrations for Social Work Month in March 2011
State Level Awardees are Honored During the Annual Conference in Dallas, TX, October 8-10, 2011

Social Worker of the Year

The Social Worker of the Year Award honors a member of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) who exemplifies the best of the profession's values and achievements through specific accomplishments. In honoring the Social Worker of the Year, NASW highlights superb accomplishments in the practice of social work.

A member in good standing who:

- √ Advocates for the clients
 - √ Makes a demonstrable contribution in social policy, social work practice, program development, administration and research
 - √ Demonstrates outstanding leadership
 - √ Contributes to a positive image for the social work profession
 - √ Takes risks to achieve outstanding results
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Lifetime Achievement Award

Each year, the Texas Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers selects a social worker for this award to celebrate a lifetime of accomplishments. In honoring the Lifetime Achievement Award winner, NASW recognized the best social work values and accomplishments demonstrated in the social worker's lifetime.

A member in good standing who meets all the criteria for Social Worker of the Year, and :

- √ Demonstrates repeated outstanding achievements
 - √ Has recognition beyond the social work profession
 - √ Has made contributions of lasting impact
 - √ Has outstanding creativity
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Social Work Student of the Year

The Social Work Student of the Year Award honors a student member of NASW/Texas who is enrolled at least halftime (as defined by their school) in a graduate or undergraduate Social Work Program and has made an outstanding contribution to the goals and mission of the profession.

A member in good standing who demonstrates at a beginning level:

- √ Leadership
 - √ Commitment to Social Justice; the Profession of Social Work; and to Clients
 - √ Integration of Social Work knowledge, skills, attitudes and values.
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Public Citizen of the Year

The National Association of Social Workers (NASW), the largest membership organization of professional social workers, established the Public Citizen of the Year to honor an outstanding member of the community whose accomplishments exemplify the values and mission of the profession of social work.

The award winner is not a social worker. The awardee must:

- √ Make a significant contribution to an area or population of concern to the social work profession such as: at-risk or vulnerable populations, Quality of life in communities or Social issues
 - √ Act with courage
 - √ Demonstrate outstanding leadership
 - √ Exemplify social work values and ethics
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Public Elected Official of the Year

The Public Elected Official of the Year Award recognizes outstanding service and contributions of an elected official who has shown leadership in the formulation of public policy, particularly policies that affect social justice, health care, education, civil and human rights, and social practice.

The award recipient must:

- √ Be an elected official serving, at the time of nomination, in public office at the local, state, or national level
 - √ Make a significant contribution to public service while in office
 - √ Demonstrate leadership in advancing public policy in the area of vulnerable populations, civil and human rights, or social welfare
 - √ Demonstrate leadership on behalf of the protection and advancement of social work practice and exemplify social work values and ethics
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Media Award

The Media Award recognizes outstanding contributions in Print, Radio, Television or Online Publications that provide information to the general public.

The award recipient must:

- √ Demonstrate leadership in their respective media area by: accurately portraying the social work profession; portraying issues of concern to social workers; increasing the understanding, awareness, and value of the social work profession to the general public; effectively communicating the impact of policy decisions on the lives of Texas; Using social workers as resources for articles /reports.

If you are interested in nominating someone you know for a Social Work Award, contact your Branch Chair or NLIC Representative or call Erin Beam at the Chapter Office - 512.474.1454 for more information.