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Northbrook Clinician and Educator Recognized with Lifetime Achievement Award

Northbrook, IL— Every day the nation’s 650,000 social workers act as advocates, champions, and leaders who make our society a better place to live. In continuation of this year’s National Professional Social Work Month theme, “Elevate Social Work,” the National Association of Social Workers, Illinois Chapter (NASW-IL) is honoring the work of some exceptional Illinois social workers and individuals whose work promotes social justice and social change with and on behalf of the people and clients they serve.

One such exemplary Illinois social worker being honored this year is statewide Lifetime Achievement Awardee Stanley McCracken. **Stanley McCracken** (*PhD, The University of Chicago; LCSW*) is retired from The University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration. He has forty years’ experience as clinician, educator, and consultant. He has written about psychiatric rehabilitation, addiction, behavioral pharmacology, behavioral medicine, aging, motivational interviewing, and staff training. His current practice interest is supporting healers who work with refugees and immigrants; veterans; older adults; and individuals in behavioral health and medical settings. He consults with staff at Asian Human Services, Hanul Family Alliance, and Rush University. He is on the board of directors of Lake County Veterans and Family Services Foundation and the professional advisory group for Advocate Condell Hospital Clinical Pastoral Education.

In support of her nomination of Stanley, colleague Grisel Rodriguez-Morales wrote: “He is a recognized expert in mental health and substance abuse treatment and has been a leading advocate connecting research with practice to teach mental health and substance abuse treatment.” In working with Stanley who was brought in to serve as clinical consultant at Rush University Medical Center, manager of social work services Eve Escalante also wrote, “[O]ur staff and leadership now have a renewed mindset as a result of Stan’s involvement and consultation.”

The NASW-Illinois Chapter is proud of the work of Stanley McCracken and others like him who fight every day for the underserved and underprivileged in Illinois. Stanley is one of four individuals being honored at this year’s NASW-Illinois Chapter Statewide Conference taking place November 5–7, 2019, at The Westin North Shore in Wheeling, IL. To learn more about the other statewide awardees, please visit the NASW-Illinois Chapter website (www.naswil.org) or contact Joel L. Rubin, executive director, at jrubin.naswil@socialworkers.org.

The National Association of Social Workers (NASW) is the largest membership organization of professional social workers in the world, with over 120,000 members. The NASW-Illinois Chapter is one of the association’s largest chapters with over 5,500 members in Illinois alone. NASW strives to advance social work careers, grow social work businesses, and protect the profession.