



## Society Members Hear Federal, State Advocates on Pending Legislation Annual Meeting Held May 16th

Approximately 80 people attended the annual general membership meeting of the NYS Society at the Gramercy Park Hotel on Saturday, May 16th. The meeting followed a Champagne brunch in the Green Tree Room, with some 50 members and guests attending. Many of those present at the meeting were new members, having joined the Society during the past year.

President Marsha Wineburgh welcomed all those present and introduced the Society's officers, chairs of standing committees, chapter presidents, staff and guests. She reviewed the objectives of the organization, noting the increased recognition of clinical social work and emphasizing the Parity Bill now before the State Legislature and its importance to clinical social workers.

The meeting agenda included presentations by Kenneth L. Adams, National Advocate for the National Federation of Societies of Clinical Social Work; Barry K. Mallin, Legislative/Legal Counsel for the

NYS Society; and Susan Finkelstein and Andrew Stromberg, co-chairs of the Society's Parity Committee.

### ... in Washington

Ken Adams spoke at length, reviewing his role as representative for the Federation over the past 6 years, and presented a full picture of the situation in Washington regarding mental health care providers in general and clinical social workers in particular.

He distributed a packet of materials to all those present, among which were copies of pertinent bills to be presented at this session of the House and Senate; a memo from him detailing steps Society members can take to push legislation favorable to clinical social workers by communicating with their representatives; and a copy of a letter from Jay B. Constantine, Chief Health Professional Staff to Gerald L. Klerman, M.D., Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The letter

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## NATIONAL FEDERATION MEETING

Report by Marsha Wineburgh, CSW,  
President, NYS Chapter

The spring meeting of the National Federation of Societies for Clinical Social Work was held in Washington, D.C. April 30th through May 2nd. All member states were present except Tennessee.

As usual when we meet in Washington, time is set aside to lobby with our national legislators, and this was one of the priority items on our agenda. Federation hosted a reception on April 30th in the Dirksen Senate Office Building honoring Senator Spark Matsunaga (D-HI) for his leadership in mental health legislation. Although a number of senators and their staffs attended, New York's representatives did not appear. On Friday, May 1st, State representatives met with their senators or aides. As president of the NYSSCSWP, I met with Faye Drummond of Senator Moynihan's office and Antonia Greenman, aide to Senator D'Amato. The purpose of our meeting was to urge each senator to consider co-sponsoring S. 123, the bill which amends the Social Security Act to expand the provider category for medicare and medicaid mental health services to include clinical social workers as well as psychologists, board certified psychiatrists and psychiatric nurse specialists. A companion to this bill (H.R. 3373) was introduced by Congressman Fithian in the House of Representatives while we were meeting in Washington.

On Friday evening, May 1st, the Federation celebrated its 10th anniversary with a cocktail and dinner party at the Washington Marriott Hotel. Crayton Rowe, currently our State chair for the Committee on Psychoanalysis, was honored as

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Kenneth P. Adams, national advocate for the Federation; Marsha Wineburgh, NYS Society president; and Barry K. Mallin, Society counsel/advocate



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# Executive report

Our Parity Bill (S.3542/A.4538) is on "hold" in the Senate Insurance Committee. It has a lot of company—any bill introduced this session that includes additional titles in health payment plans. A new unit, the Council on Health Care Financing, has been created by the State Legislature (May 2, 1981) to survey outpatient health care financing, education and illness prevention. This new body has been charged to report to the State Legislature by March 31, 1982. The report will be a critical factor in determining the future of ambulatory care insurance reimbursement. Consequently, it is of crucial interest to us and the consumers who use our professional services.

Although our bill will remain in committee pending the Council's report, we must continue to diligently press our case for complete parity with other mental health disciplines in New York State. Qualified clinical social workers are already recognized as fully competent to deliver mental health services. We won this legal battle in 1977. Our current bill merely furthers the intent of the earlier legislation, amending the law so that every group health insurance contract which provides reimbursement for physicians, psychiatrists and psychologists also includes reimbursement for qualified clinical social workers. This would apply to agencies as well as CSWs' private practice. It means an end to the practice of "signing off"—we would be reimbursed over our own signatures. Our work would command the same professional respect as the other recognized mental health disciplines. Parity is basic to our professional integrity. This particular legislation is essential to the reiteration of clinical social workers as competent, qualified providers of mental health care.

So... have a restful summer. Come back refreshed and ready to continue building on the progress we have made this year. We are greater in number, better informed and better organized. We will persist. This bill is in the collective interest of ourselves as well as our patients.

*Marsha Wineburgh, CSW*

## FEDERATION

Continued from page 1

one of the past presidents of National Federation.

### Budget Changes

The National Federation's business meeting was heavily scheduled. One of the most important items on the agenda was a painstaking review of the budget; the Finance committee and the National Federation Board voted to make extensive cuts and additions. The major budget increase was in the area of national advocacy. The Board voted to retain the services of its present advocate, Ken Adams, and to increase the budget by almost one half for this activity. It should be noted that the budget for advocacy has remained the same since 1977 although the amount of time for these efforts has nearly doubled. The approved increase will cover the current level of activity.

The Board also voted to increase annual membership dues from \$20/member to \$25/member as of July 1, 1981. New York State voted in favor of the increase, the first in 10 years.

Cuts in the budget include: a reduction in the number of National meetings from 3 to 2 each year; the Newsletter will be published twice a year; and the Education committee budget was reduced from \$5,000 to \$1,000. Most of the \$4,000 difference has been used for transportation for committee members to its 3 yearly meetings. In order for this committee to continue its important work, it will be necessary for the individual states to pick up transportation costs. Fredlee Kaplan of the NYS Education committee is currently representing our State Society. The

National Education committee is chaired by Dr. Florence Lieberman of New York.

### New Membership Category

The National Federation added a new membership category: Affiliate State Society. This category has no voting status and pays annual dues of \$200/year. Arthur Katz, Executive Director of the Council on Social Work Education held a "conversation" with the Board, after which the Board voted to affiliate with the Council. The chair of the Licensing/Vendorship Committee, Gary Unruh of Colorado, proposed that the National Federation develop a formal relationship with the American Association of State Social Work Boards. This was approved.

### Psychoanalytic Training

Crayton Rowe, chair of the National Committee on Psychoanalysis, reported on the recent formation of the American Board for Certification for Psychoanalysis. This is a medical organization created to combat the National Accreditation Association for Psychoanalysis (NAAP), a nonmedical organization. Mr. Rowe stated his concern that this medical board would develop standards for social workers who were training in psychoanalysis without social work input. His recommendation that the Committee on Psychoanalysis be authorized by the Board to develop a national position paper on psychoanalytic training for social workers was unanimously approved. The Board of the National Federation also voted not to support NAAP's petition until we have

developed our own position paper.

Officers for 1981-82 were elected. As of July 1, 1981: President—Pat Wellons (Kentucky); Vice President—Marsha Wineburgh (New York); Secretary—Carol Corkey (Colorado); Treasurer—Samuel S. Lewis III (Louisiana).

The fall Federation meeting is scheduled for October 3rd and 4th in Washington. □

## National Officers Exchange Views

A special meeting took place on Friday, May 1st, in Washington between representatives from the National Federation of Societies of Clinical Social Work and the National Association of Social Workers.

The group discussed licensure and certification. Groundwork was laid for State societies and NASW chapters to work together on the many activities of mutual concern requiring cooperation and participation on a national level for all social workers.

Representing the National Federation were Pat Wellons, president-elect; Hal Boyts, current president; Gary Unruh, Licensing/Vendorship chair; Helen Her-ring, representative to the National Commission for Health Certifying Agencies; and lobbyists Ken Adams and Andy Miller. Present on behalf of NASW were Chauncey Alexander, executive director; Nancy Humphreys, past president; and Mary Ann Quaranta, president. □

# Society Members Hear Advocates

Continued from page 1

outlined the difficulties in determining the efficacy of psychotherapy and quality care in the mental health field.

At present, Mr. Adams explained, the two issues of immediate concern to clinical social workers all over the country are: 1) the extent to which mental health is to be recognized, if at all; and 2) the discrimination among the providers themselves. He noted the present climate in Washington and the administration's hostility to mental health issues in general and the lack of concrete knowledge about psychotherapy. He stated that the idea of a national health plan, although dormant, is still alive and that it's just a matter of time before such a plan is inaugurated. And, "if we don't catch up now, we won't have a chance" after the plan takes effect.

This one issue places all mental health care providers in the same boat. A major breakthrough occurred this year in the formation of a coalition of psychiatrists, psychologists, clinical social workers and psychiatric nurse specialists, all of whom will be working together to obtain mental health coverage and who, together, will fight against cutting this benefit to pay for dental care. As of the beginning of this year Blue Cross-Blue Shield cut mental health coverage to federal employees in

tatives in Washington to co-sponsor Bill S. 123 in the Senate and Bill H.R. 3373 in the House. The bills will amend Titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to cover reimbursement for the services of clinical social workers for patients under medicare and medicaid. Letters should remind representatives that Society president Marsha Wineburgh met with their staff people May 1st and should request a reply as to whether the representatives intend to co-sponsor the bills. If not, why not? If there is no reply to the first letter, write again. If there is a response but no commitment, a second letter (with a copy of the first enclosed) should request a commitment. Members should send copies of all letters and replies to Mr. Adams in Washington.

A question and answer session provided stimulating discussion.

## ... in Albany

The Society's own Parity Bill, presently before the Ways and Means Committee of the NYS Legislature, will amend the present law, to include clinical social workers as independent providers of mental health care along with psychiatrists and psychologists. Co-chairs Susan Finkelstein and Andrew Stromberg



*Susan Finkelstein, Parity committee co-chair*

also has a list of 50 leaders in the field who have already written to Albany in support of this bill. In addition, support has come from various trade unions; from psychiatrists and psychologists; from educators, municipal executives and prominent members of various professions.

The committee has augmented its efforts through the services of Martin Steadman Associates, public relations counselors, long familiar with the Albany scene. Additional financial support has been forthcoming from individual Society members to help defray this additional expense. The committee has suggested the formation of a Political Action committee, directed solely to political activity.

Barry K. Mallin, advocate for the Society, related the progress of the Parity Bill, first introduced in June 1980 with one sponsor in the Senate and three in the Assembly. Efforts of the Society and its Parity committee working with Mr. Mallin have brought the count to the present 14 senators and 9 assembly people supporting the bill (the largest number ever). Mr. Mallin has conferred consistently with members of the state legislature, with members of both Insurance committees as well as local officials to push passage of the bill.

Although there are no firm statistics on the effectiveness of the optional measure of third party reimbursement now on the books (Chapter 893/77), reported Mr. Mallin, most of the commercial insurance carriers have reported no appreciable increase in the cost of coverage. Much of

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*Crayton E. Rowe, Jr., chair, committee on Psychoanalysis; Chapter Development chair Donna Rohlf; and Ken Adams, Washington advocate*

order to include dental care in its benefits. CSWs' representatives and others in the field are protesting this cut and recommending strongly that the deductible be shared for all benefits, not cut only from mental health benefits.

Mr. Adams made a strong plea that Society members write to their represen-

reported on the intense lobbying campaign of the Parity committee.

The committee has arranged for prepaid telegrams to be sent at the appropriate time to the Governor, Chairmen of the Insurance Committees in both State houses and to the Minority and Majority leaders of both houses. The committee

# LEGISLATIVE EXCHANGE

Report by Barry K. Mallin, Esq.,  
Legislative Advocate

The Society progressed substantially during the 1980-81 legislative session toward its goal of securing professional autonomy for clinical social workers under state insurance laws. Although final passage of the Parity Bill still proved to be an elusive prize, a solid base of support was established among Albany legislators for continuing efforts on behalf of this bill as well as other legislation.

Advocacy of the Parity Bill among State legislators during the past year enabled the Society to carry its message to more elected officials than ever before. Legislators are now lending a more sympathetic ear to arguments stressing the essential role played by the clinical social work profession in the care and treatment of mental illness.

Our accomplishments were demonstrated by the number and stature of the sponsors of the Parity Bill (14 in the Senate and 9 in the Assembly) and by the overwhelming approval of the bill in the Assembly Insurance Committee (by a vote of 19-1).

## Cost Impact

Opponents of the bill continue to stress the possible financial impact of clinical

social work coverage on insurance premium rates. On May 27th we participated in a debate on the bill in the offices of Senator Martin Auer, Chair of the Senate Insurance Committee. Representatives from Blue Cross hit hard at the potential fiscal impact on employers doing business in New York.

We demonstrated from data supplied by the State Insurance Department that more than 800,000 employees in New York have social work coverage under commercial insurance carriers. Claims of substantial increases in premiums have not been borne out by the experience of these commercial carriers. In fact, no company has raised its rates for social work coverage under the optional provisions of the current law since the initial submission for such coverage in 1978. We further pointed out to Senator Auer that many of the commercial carriers have included social work coverage as part of their regular major medical premium package.

Senator Auer appeared supportive of arguments that detailed the widespread role of clinical social workers as the major deliverers of mental health care. A Society memorandum on fiscal impacts of the bill was made available to Senator Auer, emphasizing the cost benefits that would flow from passage of the bill: greater access for patients to more competitively priced mental health practitioners; reduction of in-hospital costs by early utilization

of psychotherapy; and cost benefits for employers through improved productivity.

As a result of a policy determination that went beyond the immediate issues of the Parity Bill, however, the Senate Insurance Committee decided to table all health insurance bills for the current session, pending the results of a forthcoming study on the financial impact of insurance coverage on health care costs.

Legislation enacted this year created a new body known as the Health Care Financing Council, headed by Senator Tarky J. Lombardi, Jr. and Assemblyman James R. Tallon, Jr. The council is mandated to develop findings on the cost of health care in New York and on the impact of insurance coverage on these costs. We intend to make known to the council the Society's views on the indispensable role of clinical social workers in providing mental health care and why clinical social workers should gain parity with other mental health professionals.

Key Insurance committee members now know the Society and have met with Society representatives. We have discussed and debated the bill and have been able to state our position directly to members of both State houses. As a result, the Society has developed increasing support for the Parity Bill in Albany. We now have a solid foundation for continuing efforts to secure passage of this important bill. □

## The Postgraduate Medical School of NYU

in conjunction with the  
**Psychoanalytic Association of New York**  
presents a panel discussion  
"Treatment Process in Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy"  
by The Psychoanalytic Institute, NYU (formerly Downstate)  
Date: Saturday, September 26, 1981 — 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Place: **NYU Medical Center**  
**550 First Avenue**  
**New York, NY 10016**

Fee: \$50.00 (including lunch)  
\$25.00 Professionals in training

Accreditation: Six points Category I CME credits

### Morning:

Panelists will clarify the similarities and differences of dynamic psychotherapy and psychoanalysis. Clinical professors of psychiatry at NYU, panelists include:  
Samuel Abrams, M.D.—Director, Psychoanalytic Institute  
Harold P. Blum, M.D.—Editor, *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*  
Peter B. Neubauer, M.D.—Director, Child Development Center  
Shelley Orgel, M.D.—Secretary, Educational Committee of The Psychoanalytic Institute  
Melvin A. Scharfman, M.D.—Chairman, Section on Child Analysis

### Afternoon:

Participants will divide into small workshops to be chaired by faculty members of the Psychoanalytic Institute, NYU

For information write to:

**Registration Department**  
**NYU Postgraduate Medical School**  
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# New Members Tell Why They Joined

## Comments at General Meeting Reveal Need for Professional Identity

A number of new Society members attended the general meeting—all had become members during the past year, some as recently as "last week." We talked to several to learn why they'd joined and what they wanted from their SCSWP membership. The thread that ran through their replies was "a sense of professional identification."

Many had been—or still are—members of other professional organizations in the field but were not satisfied with those associations. They now look to the Society for that sense of professional identity, peer interchange and support, a community of interests and a strong sense of political activism which they see as necessary for recognition at every level. And, if their attitudes are reflective of the more than 150 CSWs who have joined over the past year, the Society now has a new group of interested, articulate and active members. Some of their comments follow:

"It's important to join a professional organization," says **Marjorie Stuckle** (Met), who looks to the Society for a "sense of support." She's seen significant changes in her workplace, namely, the medical establishment's assuming a greater managerial role. "We really have to pull together—to be seen as a professional organization—and to be more visible."

**Karen Allen** (West.) is "very concerned about the image of social work." She mentions as one factor that schools "push people through in social work programs without sufficient education and training." Working within an interdisciplinary situation, she observes, "one can lose the social work identity, and I want to be part



Marjorie Stuckle



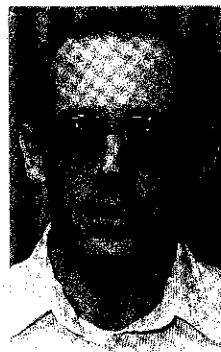
Toni Halbreich



Karen Allen



Lillian Rosengarten



Tony Reisman



Josie Pileglio

of a strong group whose identity is based on clinical social work."

"I like being associated with social workers who are therapists," says **Tony Reisman** (Met). "It felt good to join the Society." The public needs to become aware of the services rendered by social workers as therapists, he feels, to counteract the myth of who actually delivers the mental health services. And, "Membership will enhance my professional identity as a clinical social worker."

**Toni Halbreich** (Queens) was the student representative for NASW and has been active in lobbying. A former copywriter, Toni returned to school to become a clinical social worker, and she too sees membership in SCSWP as "part of having a professional identity," and professional association with her peers in clinical social work.

**Lillian Rosengarten** (Met) observes that "other mental health disciplines are very strong in getting legislation passed for themselves—and we as CSWs have to politic together." She wants feedback from other CSWs on clinical materials she is writing—would like to 'network' with Society members—and has strong feelings on identification with peers and active participation in a professional organization.

"I was looking for a professional organization to join," **Josie Pileglio** (Queens) relates, and SCSWP addresses her interests to a greater degree than other professional associations. She joined "for professional growth" and sees the Society, its educational and political activities, answering these needs. □

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# IN COMMITTEE . . .

## EDUCATION

The Education committee has scheduled the next annual conference for Saturday, October 31, 1981, at the Bar-bizon Plaza Hotel, New York City. Our guest speaker will be Gerda Schulman, LL.D., M.S. The title of the conference will be "Family Therapy in Depth—a Day with Gerda Schulman."

Dr. Schulman is a renowned family therapist. She is an Associate Professor in the Masters and Doctoral Programs at Adelphi University School of Social Work, and Associate Professor at Hunter College School of Social Work, Coordinator of the Post Masters Program in the Family Therapy sequence.

The conference will focus on the breakdown of the traditional family structure as a result of divorce, displacement or illness. These distressed families present themselves to agencies and private practitioners. How can we help them?

A live demonstration or videotape of a family will be part of the presentation. Dr. Schulman will discuss the special characteristics of these families—how to arrive at an assessment and how to use appropriate therapeutic techniques.

We look forward to a very exciting conference. Keep the date open.

*Alan Shanef, CSW*

## ETHICS

The April and June meetings of the State Board have resulted in important advances in the work of the Ethics committee. In April the Board approved the committee's suggestion that an adjudication procedure and machinery be established to implement the provisions of the Code of Ethics and to deal with complaints of ethical violations against members. In June the Board unanimously approved the revision of the new Code of Ethics which this committee has been working on for almost two years and which had already been reviewed by the chapters.

The committee had two major goals in formulating this revision:

1. To draft a code that would strike a balance between the abstract and the specific; to articulate ethical principles that would touch on the main roles and activities of clinical social workers and yet would be clear enough—without excessive detail or restrictions—to lend itself to adjudication in actual practice;

2. To update the existing code by recognizing and including other precepts that affect our practice, such as the rules regarding professional advertising by the NYS Board of Regents.

The next task of the committee is to fulfill the mandate of the Board in establishing procedures and the mechanism to deal with actual cases of members accused of code violations and to suggest

appropriate penalties for those found guilty. The new code will be subject to consistent review and revision as it is used. The planned tasks are formidable, and the committee would like increased involvement and representation from all chapters. The best way to prevent violations of the code is to have a membership familiar with its provisions.

*David G. Phillips, CSW*

## PSYCHOANALYSIS

At the March meeting the need for malpractice insurance was discussed and the difficulty of obtaining this type of insurance. Martin Pollens is exploring this further and will report.

Donna Rohlf reported on the recent public hearing on the regulation of mental health services led by Mark Segal, chairman of the State Legislature's higher education committee. Barry Mallin testified for the Society at this hearing.

A comprehensive comparison of training standards at various psychoanalytic training facilities was distributed by Florence Radin. This report will form the basis of a position paper to be presented to the Board by this committee.

A report by Harriet Pappenheim showed that 18 of the 21 psychoanalytic training institutes surveyed had responded concerning the presence on their staffs of clinical social workers. Further data will be gathered and a final report submitted to Society members.

*Crayton E. Rowe, Jr., CSW*

### Westchester Management Institute for Independent Psychotherapists, Inc.

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**September 26, 1981**—Am I Cut Out for Independent Practice?  
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Martin S. Pollens, MSW, CSW

**November 14, 1981**—Can I afford to Establish/Maintain an Independent Practice in the Current Economy?  
**2:30-4:30 PM** (didactic and sharing of experiences)

Leader: John Rufer, CPA

**December 12, 1981**—Personal Challenges of the Female Therapist in Independent Practice  
**2:30-4:30 PM** (didactic and sharing of experiences)

Leaders: Nohmie Myers, MSW, CSW  
Ruthe Feilbert-Willis, MSW, CSW

**January 16, 1982**—How to Deal With The Morass of Third Party Reimbursement  
**2:30-4:30 PM** (didactic—sharing of experiences)

Leader: Martin S. Pollens, MSW, CSW

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# Chapter Update

### Mid-Hudson

A workshop on "Borderline Pathology" took place on May 2nd at Dutchess Community College; Chapter member Jacinta Lu Costello presented the program. The program committee is developing the fall and winter schedule, which will include two all-day workshops in addition to monthly meeting discussions on various clinical issues.

The chapter is developing its first set of formal bylaws and management policies. A referral service and speakers' bureau have also been formed within this young chapter.

*Evelyn M. Hill, CSW*

### Queens

The chapter had its final meeting of the season in June in the pleasant surroundings of Whitney Pond Park. Members brought picnic lunches and shared them, resulting in a menu of great variety.

The first fall meeting will take place on Sunday, September 13th, and will be a planning session for 1981-82.

Shirley Sillekens and Pat Landy have planned the meeting for October. Dr. Nible of the Division of New York State Substance Abuse will present an overview of the mentality of the drug user and discuss in some detail drugs widely used today. His presentation promises to be stimulating and helpful to those working with adolescents and adults using and abusing drugs. He will also focus on working with the patient on methadone maintenance.

This will be an open brunch meeting; anyone interested may attend. Details will be available early in September.

*Haruko Brown, CSW*



*Joseph Ventimiglia, Queens chapter; Gemma F. Colangelo, Membership chair; and Robert P. Galardi, 1st vice president*

the opposition to passage of the Parity Bill emanates from Blue Cross-Blue Shield (particularly in counties Upstate) where this carrier has been able to generate letters from other insurance carriers and firms expressing concern about possible rate increases should the Parity Bill pass.

A discussion period followed Mr. Mallin's presentation. The remainder of the meeting addressed old and new business of the Society.

Crayton E. Rowe, Jr., as past president of the Society, stressed the importance of members' registration with the National Registry of Health Care Providers in clinical social work. He emphasized the high professional standards of this registry.

President Wineburgh's closing remarks ended the meeting. □

### New Directory in 1982

In line with present priorities to use all available monies for Parity Bill lobbying efforts, publication of the new Directory of Members, scheduled for 1981, has been postponed for one year.

The New York State Board has approved a plan to publish the new directory during 1982.

For information about any member of the Society, please call or write:

Mitzi Mirkin  
Executive Secretary  
513 Benine Road  
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### THE DIVISION OF SOCIAL WORK SERVICES AT THE INSTITUTE FOR SOCIO THERAPY IN NEW YORK CITY

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