

# THE CONGRESSIONAL SOCIAL WORK CAUCUS & NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS SYMPOSIUM ON THE FUTURE OF NEW YORK CITY'S CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Polytechnic Institute of New York University • 5 Metro Tech Plaza • Brooklyn, NY 11201  
September 16, 2011 • 9:00am-1:00pm

## AGENDA

### Overview

This half-day symposium, sponsored by the National Association of Social Workers (NASW), NASW-New York City Chapter, and the Congressional Social Work Caucus (CSWC), will assess current resources and systems devoted to children and youth in New York City in the areas of education, services for at-risk children and youth, and investments in children. Panelists will discuss current policies, programs and funding levels and offer policy recommendations.

Moderators for the event include: **Dr. Irwin Garfinkel**, Professor of Contemporary Urban Problems at Columbia University School of Social Work; **Dr. Joan Levy Zlotnik**, Executive Director, Social Work Policy Institute at the National Association of Social Workers; and **Dr. Mary McCarthy**, Director, Social Work Education Consortium, University at Albany State University of New York (SUNY), Lead Principal Investigator for the National Child Welfare Workforce Institute.

9:00am

### Welcome

NASW New York City Chapter

**Jerry M. Hultin**, President, Polytechnic Institute of New York University

9:10am – 9:30am

### Opening Remarks

**Congressman Edolphus Towns**, (NY-10) & Chair, Congressional Social Work Caucus

9:30am – 10:20am

### Panel One: Educating New York City's Children

This panel will discuss policies and programs related to the New York City educational system and early education opportunities.

### Moderator:

**Dr. Irwin Garfinkel**, Professor of Contemporary Urban Problems at Columbia University School of Social Work

### Panelists:

**Mr. Robert Jackson**, Council Member, New York City District 7

**Dr. William Pollard**, President, Medgar Evers College of The City University of New York

10:30am – 11:35am

### Panel Two: Positive Youth Development for At-Risk Children and Youth

This panel will discuss policies and programs designed to address the psychological, emotional, and behavioral needs of at-risk children and youth.

### Moderator:

**Dr. Joan Levy Zlotnik**, Director, NASW Foundation Social Work Policy Institute (SWPI)

### Panelists:

**Dr. Emma Jordan-Simpson**, Executive Director, Children's Defense Fund

**Mr. Richard Buery**, President and CEO, Children's Aid Society

**Dr. Vincent Guilamo-Ramos**, Professor, New York University Silver School of Social Work

**Dr. Mary McKay**, Professor of Psychiatry, Mount Sinai Medical Center

- 11:45am – 12:50pm **Panel Three: Protecting and Enhancing Investments in Children**  
This panel will discuss ideas and policies to ensure that adequate resources are available for children and youth through public sector funding and ways to spur private investment in children’s programs.
- Moderator:**  
**Dr. Mary McCarthy**, Director, Social Work Education Consortium, University at Albany State University of New York (SUNY), Lead Principal Investigator for the National Child Welfare Workforce Institute.
- Panelists:**  
**Ms. Zeinab Chahine**, Managing Director for Strategic Consulting, Casey Family Programs  
**Mr. Bill Chong**, Deputy Commissioner, NYC Department of Youth & Community Development  
**Dr. Katharine Briar-Lawson**, Dean & Professor, University at Albany, State University of New York  
**Dr. William Meezan**, Director of Policy and Research, Children’s Rights
- 12:50pm **Concluding Remarks**  
**Congressman Edolphus Towns**, (NY-10) , Chair, Congressional Social Work Caucus

The **National Association of Social Workers (NASW)**, located in Washington, DC, is the largest membership organization of professional social workers in the nation with nearly 145,000 members. It promotes, develops, and protects the practice of social work and social workers. NASW also seeks to enhance the well-being of individuals, families, and communities through its advocacy.

The **Congressional Social Work Caucus (CSWC)** is an authorized Congressional Member Organization (CMO) inaugurated in the U.S. House of Representatives during the 111th Congress. Membership of the CSWC consists of social worker Members and those who support the social work profession and society’s social safety net. The CSWC is chaired by Congressman Edolphus “Ed” Towns (D-NY10), a professional social worker.

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