

CANSW welcomes input and active participation from its members.

In addition to the Executive, volunteers are needed as Editors of The VOICE newsletter and for ad-hoc committees working on a variety of professional clinical and administrative projects.

CANSW maintains a close working relationship with the following professional associations:

- Council of Nephrology Social Workers (USA) (CNSW)
- Canadian Association of Nephrology Nurses & Technicians (CANNT)
- Association of Nephrology Dietitians (AND)
- Canadian Society of Nephrologists (CNS)
- The Kidney Foundation of Canada

CANSW is a non-profit organization led by a volunteer Executive, elected by the membership-at-large.

For more information about CANSW and to join the Association visit the web site at:

www.cansw.homestead.com

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION of NEPHROLOGY SOCIAL WORKERS

The national voice for all social workers practicing within the field of nephrology.

CANSW

The Canadian Association of Nephrology Social Workers (CANSW) began in the mid 1970's in southern Ontario when a small group of Social Workers practicing in dialysis centres came together to share knowledge and clinical practice issues and to support each other in the relatively new field of renal replacement therapies. Within a few years the Ontario network had grown to include Social Workers in other provinces.

By 1980 the first Constitution was written, formalizing the fledgling organization's name and structure. Since then CANSW membership has grown to include Nephrology Social Workers practicing in every Province and in a variety of settings - pre-dialysis clinics, transplant centres, in-patient and out-patient clinics, community based dialysis units and Kidney Foundation funded patient services program.

CANSW is a national and regional voice for Nephrology Social Workers:

- promoting Nephrology Social Work as a specialized area of practice
- developing and promoting high Social Work standards of care for all renal program
- educating the public (professional and lay) regarding the psycho-social impact of kidney failure
- working professionally and collaboratively with all relevant organizations to ensure holistic care for all patients, their families and significant others
- promoting psycho-social research into kidney failure

CANSW serves its members by:

- sponsoring an annual clinical conference and business meeting focusing on professional development for all membership
- publishing the VOICE, a quarterly newsletter providing an open forum for communication within the membership
- supporting members financially to attend the annual conference
- honouring professional and clinical excellence by awarding annually the Jane Dicks Award of Excellence to a deserving CANSW member
- representing the membership on multi-disciplinary committees, panels, projects at the local, regional and national levels