

COVID-19 Related News Items

October 2020

Judy Uzzi is a member:

[Salute to Case Managers](#)

[South Florida Hospital News](#)

Judy Uzzi, LCSW, CMC, serves as the clinical program director of the MorseLife Care Management and Counseling Program. A licensed clinical social worker with more than 35 years of experience, Judy oversees a staff providing counselling and care management to a fragile senior population, most of whom are between the ages of 80 and 100 living with chronic conditions. During the pandemic she has led innovations in the delivery of care to include telehealth while also providing the technological training and opportunities for patients to connect with family members.

[\[Audio\] Together, Mother And Daughter Social Workers Face New Challenges In A Pandemic](#)

[NPR](#)

Lauren Magaña followed in her mother's footsteps when she became a social worker. It's been a most challenging year for both of them. They work mostly with elderly patients — those particularly vulnerable during the coronavirus pandemic. But Magaña and her mom, Michelle Huston, have been able to lean on one another. Huston, now 50, and Magaña, 26, first recorded a StoryCorps interview in 2018 — long before the pandemic had figured into their work — to talk about why they chose to enter a career in social work.

Marioli Sterling is a member:

[Marioli Sterling explains how social workers support their clients through COVID-19 lockdown](#)

[AZ Big Media](#)

As the COVID-19 pandemic rages on, people are more in need of help than ever before. The impact on our collective well-being has been made clear, which makes the presence of social workers in society extremely vital. [Social workers like Marioli Sterling](#) have witnessed firsthand how the pandemic has affected the mental health of their existing clients. Sterling is a social worker that works with families in New York City. She provides her insight into the various ways that social workers in the U.S. are continuing to help their clients, through innovations like telehealth and virtual sessions.

Jerry Webber is a member:

[\[Audio\] Lingering Pandemic Contributes to Stress](#)

[WNAX \(Yankton, SD\)](#)

The lingering pandemic is contributing to ongoing stress for a lot of people. **Jerry Webber is a clinical social worker in Yankton** and says she is hearing and seeing it in adults and adolescents. Webber says isolation for the elderly is very concerning, and that even former “safe spaces” are sources of stress. National healthcare officials are

warning of a winter surge in coronavirus infections as the weather gets cold and people retreat indoors.

Cynthia Mulder is a member:

[Reconnecting After COVID-19](#)

Psychology Today

"People may experience a type of shock if they try to return to their old schedule," says **Cynthia Mulder, LCSW, The Menninger Clinic**. "By resetting what we value, we find a new appreciation for what we no longer need and what helps us cope." While learning how to cope with isolation is important, the need to rebuild social connectivity is real. Enforced distancing measures are not only changing our work, family, and travel routines, but they're also changing how we interact with others.

[COVID-19 Could Leave Lasting Effect On Mental Health In City Jails](#)

Bedford & Bowery

According to a June report from the National Association of Social Workers, COVID-19 and measures meant to combat it, including social distancing, are likely to exacerbate pre-existing mental health issues, extreme anxiety and emotional trauma for incarcerated individuals. Bajuk said that many of her clients experienced heightened levels of fear because many of the regular mental health workers at Rikers were no longer there to explain what was going on, even as jails became epicenters of the disease.

Laura Young is a member:

[How to talk to your families about COVID Thanksgiving](#)

Fox5 New York

"The minority could be the person who doesn't want to wear a mask," **licensed clinical social worker Laura Young** said, "and the minority could be the one who wants to wear a mask." To avoid creating or worsening any family rifts, Young advised approaching those in a family's minority when it comes to masks, social distancing and COVID lifestyle changes with respect, asking the questions that need asking to keep Thanksgiving as safe as possible without becoming accusatory or insulting.

Sam Hickman is executive director of NASW-WV:

[State and local community groups to respond to SCOTUS nomination; Congress passing COVID Relief Package](#)

WVVA

"An increasing number of Senator Capito's constituents are losing loved ones to COVID, their livelihoods to a crumbling economy, and are facing hunger, cutoffs and evictions. Now is the time for the Senator to lead on a robust new stimulus package to address these ills, not embarrass West Virginia by blindly following the conveniently shifting convictions of her party," offered **Sam Hickman, CEO of WV Chapter of NASW**.

Erica Woodland is a member:

[National Coming Out Day: Coming out during a pandemic](#)

KVIA

Erica Woodland first came out to himself about his queer identity in middle school. In the last few years, he came out as transgender, and introduced his family to his new pronouns. Whether we come to understand our sexuality personally, with our family or with our broader community, coming out is a process, said **Woodland, a licensed clinical social worker and founder of the [National Queer and Trans Therapists of Color Network](#)**. October 11 is National Coming Out Day in the United States, celebrated each year to mark the anniversary of the 1987 National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights.

Chris McLaughlin is a member:

[Calls to domestic violence hotlines have 'skyrocketed' during coronavirus pandemic](#)
News Center Maine

Alcohol also plays a role in domestic violence situations. **Chris McLaughlin, a licensed clinical social worker with Northern Light Acadia Hospital**, says in some cases, online alcohol sales have increased by 243 percent over the last five months. "These sort of situations are really just a powder keg of violence," McLaughlin told NEWS CENTER Maine via Zoom. "We are seeing that the typical reprieve for some of these survivors being able to go to the workplace, being able to go to school, being able to get out of the house and do errands—those things are gone."

Jana Svoboda is a member:

[Living with Apocalypse Fatigue](#)
The Corvallis Advocate

Jana Svoboda, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Therapist based in Corvallis, said the symptom difference among age groups may be due to the fact that young adults typically have less exposure to big changes in their lifetime. "This is an age where we are completing education, exploring the world, preparing for, entering or enlarging careers, finding life partners or raising families," Svoboda said. "Many normal doors are shut. We are responsible for making it on our own—younger people have families making those decisions, older people often have those decisions in place."

Stacey Henson is a member:

[Study Shows How South Florida Residents Are Coping With COVID-19 Based on Income Level](#)

South Florida Caribbean News

By Stacey Henson, LCSW, ACSW: **With over 40% of Florida's COVID-19 cases, South Florida has been the epicenter of the state's coronavirus outbreak.** To better understand how the pandemic is impacting the South Florida community, The Recovery Village, a leading treatment center with locations across South Florida, surveyed 500 South Florida residents about their mental health and substance use.

Amy Eisele is a member:

[Preparing children for COVID-positive parent](#)
Salisbury Post (NC)

As adults, we have had to navigate ourselves in an ever-changing world of information

and messages about the pandemic. We have tried to balance safety with a good measure of normalcy for our children. However, most parents don't have a concrete, well-thought-out plan for what family life will look like if a parent contracts the disease and is forced to quarantine or, worse yet, go to the hospital. To ease your child's worries, here are a few tips from my friend **Amy Eisele, a therapist and licensed clinical social worker** who has worked with children and families for about fifty years.

Laura Stephens is a member:

[\[Video\] Pandemic Parenting](#)

KWQC (Davenport, IA)

Laura Stephens, Parenting Coach (Licensed Independent/Clinical Social Worker) at Courageous Aim (located in the Quad Cities), joins PSL to talk about the day-to-day struggle for parents during this pandemic. The cold hard truth is that it's always hard to be a parent. But now.....you are NOT alone if you think this is especially difficult. Watch the interview to get some perspective and tips on navigating common situations for moms & dads during COVID.

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