

# UPDATE

Wisconsin Social Services Association Newsletter

Spring 2016



## President's Message

Hello Everyone! Spring is hopefully approaching soon and we can start looking forward to summer and the upcoming WSSA Conference, "YOU are the hidden talent of Wisconsin", in Green Bay at the Tundra Lodge on June 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. Once again this year, the Conference Planning Committee and Executive Committee are working towards finding a wide variety of topics and presenters to make the Conference a great opportunity to learn and return to your office with a new appreciation of your own "hidden talent" that we all have. We are hoping to increase our attendance again this year like we have in the past couple of years.

I have now taken over as President of WSSA since our previous President, Nikki Lui, has a wonderful opportunity for her family. We wish them all the best of luck and she will be missed.

Last year's Conference was a huge success and we are very thankful for

(continued page 2)

## "Discover Your Hidden Talents"

WSSA Annual Conference 2016

June 15 & 16, 2016

Tundra Lodge, Green Bay, Wisconsin



The 79<sup>th</sup> Annual WSSA Training Institute and Conference will be Wednesday, June 15 and Thursday, June 16, 2016. The Training Institute will be held at the Tundra Lodge in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Rooms can be booked now by calling the Tundra Lodge at 920-405-8700.

We will be offering workshops in many areas, including: Workforce Development, Aging & Disability Services, Child Protective Services, Economic Support, Personal Development, and more!! It is no mystery, we have been looking through various masks to find great speakers and workshops that are sure to unveil a wide array of knowledge and information. There is sure to be much to "discover". It is destined to be an "intriguing" conference!

Information regarding the conference will be out by mid April. If you have an idea or area that may be of interest, or the name of a great speaker we would love to hear from you. Please call or e-mail one of the co-chairs below.

The theme chosen for this year's conference is "Masquerade". On Wednesday of our event we will honor our Past Presidents during our luncheon and that evening will be our traditional "theme" night dinner. We plan on a mysteriously great time. Thursday, June 16, we will have our Awards Luncheon to recognize the "hidden talents" of men and women across the State of Wisconsin.

Start thinking of who you are going to nominate now! Go to the WSSA website for further information. The web address is: [www.wssa.ws](http://www.wssa.ws) If you have ideas for workshops, speakers or would like to serve on the Planning Committee, please contact either of the names listed.

Sherri Arnold, Co-Chair  
sherri.arnold@kenoshacounty.org  
(262) 697-4549

Missy Hubacher, Co-Chair  
melissa.hubacher@goodwillsew.com  
(414) 847-4795

all who attended. It was nice to see some familiar faces and to meet some new faces. I really hope that you will be able to attend the upcoming conference.

I am excited to become the new President of this very helpful organization, as it has helped me find my “hidden talent”. Over the past few years I have been honored to be a part of WSSA as Conference Planning Co-Chair, Treasurer, President Elect, and now your President. I am both honored and humbled to take on this responsibility.

If you feel like you have a “hidden talent” and would like to become a member of our Executive Committee, we have an opening for Secretary and President Elect. The time commitment is very minimal and gives you a voice in where the Association goes in the future. If you would like any additional information please feel free to contact me at [Melissa.hubacher@goodwillsew.com](mailto:Melissa.hubacher@goodwillsew.com) or 414-847-4795.

I look forward to seeing you in June. Thank you for your continued support not only to WSSA, but also to myself as we continue to move forward in this together.

Sincerely,

*Missy Hubacher*

2016-2018 President

Wisconsin Social Services Association

## **NEEDED: WSSA HISTORIAN, TREASURER, SECRETARY AND PRESIDENT-ELECT!**

Nominations are now being accepted for the WSSA State offices of President Elect, Treasurer and Historian. The Treasurer and Historian are for two years, the 2015/16 Secretary resigned due to personal reasons and therefore the secretarial position is for one year (2016/17) and the President Elect is a three-year term. The terms of office of each of the officers shall commence on the first day in July, 2016. You must be a current member of WSSA to nominate someone or submit your name and all nominees must be current members.

Please consider volunteering for this worthwhile organization. Become part of a team working together to provide valuable networking connections throughout the state, high quality/low cost training opportunities and advocates on behalf of people who serve customers of social services agencies.

Volunteer for one of the positions above or nominate someone! Duties of the officers of WSSA are described in this issue. For more information, you may go the WSSA website: [www.wssa.ws](http://www.wssa.ws) or contact a member of the Executive Committee.

Please send nomination forms to:

Missy Hubacher, President  
[Melissa.hubacher@goodwillsew.com](mailto:Melissa.hubacher@goodwillsew.com)  
Wisconsin Social Services Association  
2801 Gilson Street  
Racine, WI 53403  
Phone: 414-847-4795



# DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

(Must be current WSSA members)

**OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT-ELECT:** (Three-year term consists of President-Elect, President and Past President) The President-Elect shall be the representative of the President on matters referred to him/her and shall upon request of, or in the absence of the President, preside over meetings of the Annual Conference or Executive Committee.

**OFFICE OF THE PARLIAMENTARIAN:** (Two year term) The Parliamentarian shall interpret the constitution, conference resolutions, procedures and other WSSA regulations and give an opinion thereon at the request of the President or Executive Committee. They also shall act as Parliamentarian at the Annual Conference.

**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY:** (Two year Term) The Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings of WSSA, all meetings of the Executive Committee and prepare information for permanent record in a book or file kept for that purpose. The Secretary shall at each meeting, at the direction of the President, read the minutes of the previous meetings and make such corrections as may be allowed. The Secretary shall have all property and equipment of the duties of the office. The Secretary shall render at the Annual Conference, a complete report of the functioning of this office for the preceding year and shall perform such other duties as may be imposed upon the office by the Executive Committee and the President. The Secretary shall be compensated for duties related to the assumption of the Office as recommended and approved by the Executive Committee.

**OFFICE OF THE TREASURER:** (Two year term) The Treasurer shall receive all funds collected from all sources. The Treasurer shall record all receipts and disbursements. The Treasurer shall make a complete financial report at the Annual Conference and such other reports as may be required by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall pay by check, draw funds, bonds and securities in a bank approved by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall be compensated for duties related to the assumption of the office as recommended and approved by the Executive Committee.

**OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATION HISTORIAN:** (Two year term) The Historian shall be responsible for compiling and maintaining the historical record of the Association and will have authority to request from the Officers and Committee Chairpersons information necessary for the performance of the office. The Historian shall find storage space for the historical files, with the approval of the Executive Committee.

**OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT:** (For your information) The President shall be the Chief Executive of the Association. The duties shall be to see that the provision of the Constitution and Bylaws, the regulations and policies established there under are observed and to be the presiding officer at the Annual Conference and all other WSSA meetings.

The President shall have the authority to designate the President-Elect to act in place of the President at public gatherings, at the Annual Conference and at Executive Committee meetings. In the event that the President-Elect cannot accept any assignment, the President may appoint another representative. The President shall have the authority to ask District Association Presidents to make appointments to such committees as may be deemed necessary.

The President may make appointments to committees of other organizations with approval of the Executive Committee. Appointees may be discharged after filing a report with the Executive Committee or by action of the President. The President shall be compensated for duties related to the assumption of the office as recommended and approved by the Executive Committee.



# WISCONSIN SOCIAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION INTEREST/NOMINATION SHEET

For the State Association positions of **President-Elect (3 year term), Treasurer (2 year term), Secretary (1 year term) & Historian (2 year term)**  
(Must be current WSSA Member)

I am interested in **serving WSSA** in the capacity of \_\_\_\_\_

I am employed by \_\_\_\_\_

My present position is \_\_\_\_\_

My past State and Local Association positions are \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

## NOMINEE INFORMATION:

I would like to **nominate** \_\_\_\_\_

For the position of \_\_\_\_\_

Their work address and phone number is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## YOUR INFORMATION:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**All nominees will be contacted.**

Return form to:

Missy Hubacher, President  
Wisconsin Social Services Association  
2801 Gilson Street  
Racine, WI 53403  
Phone: 414-847-4795  
Melissa.hubacher@goodwillsew.com

**NOMINATE NOW!**

# NOMINATE SOMEONE FOR AN AWARD!

It's time to start thinking about nominating someone you know for a WSSA award! The purpose of awards is to acknowledge and recognize individuals who exhibit leadership and have demonstrated outstanding performance in their position and have made an unique contribution in the social/human services field.

The WSSA awards available include the following: Distinguished Service, Excellence in Economic Support, Excellence in Social/Human Services, the Gayl Farris Outstanding Clerical, County Board member, Membership Liaison and Rookie of the Year. Awards will be presented at the Annual Conference.

WSSA members can be nominated at any time during the year for Honorary Life Membership. Individuals who have been of significant benefit to the Association and the field of human services who may be pending loss of their eligibility for regular membership due to retirement and have had a consecutive membership for ten years and are current members are eligible for Honorary Life membership. A framed certificate is presented to the Honorary Life member at the WSSA Annual Conference Awards Lunch.

Per an Executive Committee decision, an individual does not have to be a WSSA member to nominate someone. The person nominated does not have to be a WSSA member for the following awards: Excellence in Social/Human Services, Excellence in Economic Support, and County Board.

In addition, WSSA offers up to two scholarships of \$500 each to WSSA members who are pursuing their career and education in the social/human services field and meet the criteria. A conference grant (for a total of \$500) is also available to WSSA members who attend a State conference which is related to human/social services programs and relevant to the applicant's current job duties.

The Friend of WSSA award was established in 2000 to recognize an agency or organization that has demonstrated exceptional support for the goals and objectives of WSSA. It acknowledges contributions made by a county, agency or organization through participation, lending of its members of time or other resources to sustain the ideals of WSSA.

Criteria for awards and scholarships as well as nomination forms can be found on the WSSA website: [www.wssa.ws](http://www.wssa.ws) For more information, please contact an Executive Committee member.

## ***DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS: April 11, 2016***

Send nomination forms to:

Missy Hubacher, President  
Melissa.hubacher@goodwillsew.com  
Wisconsin Social Services Association  
2801 Gilson Street, Racine, WI 53403  
Phone: 414-847-4795



# Wisconsin is Full of Everyday Superheroes!

~ 2015 Annual Conference Recap ~

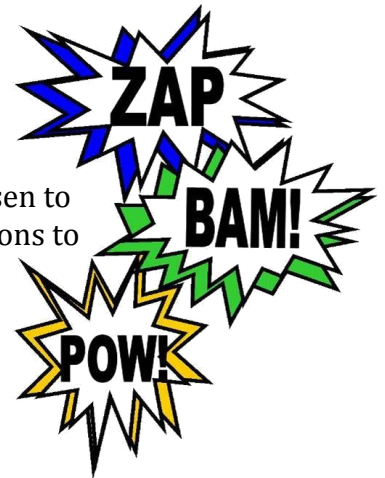
The 78th Annual WSSA Training Institute and Conference held on June 24 & 25, 2015 was a “MARVELous” celebration for all of the “everyday superheroes” we have around Wisconsin. The conference was held at Kalahari Resort and Conference Center in Wisconsin Dells. Conference registration was once again up and we had over 150 people attend conference. The conference began with a very uplifting keynote speaker, Karen Vadino, who presented “*Laughing Just for the Health of It*”.

We had speakers from all different facets of our work, including W2, social work, stress, IM, case management and customer service. All of our speakers were wonderful and the reviews of their workshops were excellent.

We had the opportunity to honor our “avengers”, the Past Presidents on Wednesday of the conference. We had a number of them in attendance at the conference. Our theme night dinner was fun as usual, we had quite a few superheroes show up to the headquarters for some “power” food. Everyone seemed to have an incredible time at conference.

On Thursday, we acknowledged the “Super Men and Women” who were chosen to receive WSSA awards and certainly deserved recognition for their contributions to the field of Human and Social Services. A huge congratulations to all the Award Winners!

*Submitted by: Sherri Arnold*



## SEEKING VENDORS FOR CONFERENCE

Is there a certain vendor you would like to see at the 2016 Annual WSSA Conference to be held June 15 & 16 at Tundra Lodge in Green Bay, Wisconsin? We would appreciate your suggestions as we prepare for the conference. Please contact me at:

Jaci Fuller  
7493 North Road  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
e-mail: [tomnjaci58@gmail.com](mailto:tomnjaci58@gmail.com)  
phone: 715-225-3978

# AMENDMENTS TO WSSA BYLAWS

At the Annual Business meeting held on June 25, 2015, the following amendment to the WSSA Bylaws was approved:  
Amendment #2015-01

Article III, Section 3, Item b, sub-item 7

In the event the office of the President and President-Elect are vacant, the Executive Committee has the authority to appoint a President, subject to confirmation by an affirmative vote of three-fourths of the majority of the Executive Committee members. The appointment of a President shall be effective upon confirmation.

Reason for the Amendment:

This amendment will cover a situation if there is not a President-Elect, and the President has to resign due to illness, job change or other circumstances beyond their control, which had not been previously addressed in the Bylaws.

*Submitted by: Jaci Fuller  
Constitutions and Bylaws Revision & Resolutions Committee*

## WEST CENTRAL DISTRICT NEEDS YOU!

**Are you employed by a municipal, county, state, federal or private human service agency or institution in one of the following counties: Buffalo, Chippewa, Crawford, Dunn, Eau Claire, Jackson, LaCrosse, Monroe, Pierce, Pepin, St. Croix, Trempealeau or Vernon?** If so, then you could represent the West Central District of the Wisconsin Social Services Association on the Executive and Conference Planning Committee.

Each of the six districts of the Wisconsin Social Services Association has representation on the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee is also the Conference Planning Committee at this time, and plans the yearly conference. It generally meets 5 or 6 times per year, to line up speakers, activities, meals, etc. The benefits of serving on a WSSA committee include professional development, networking opportunities, leadership training and meeting others in the human/social services field.

Can't find time away from the office? You can still contribute and serve via conference calls, emails and individual phone contact. Please consider representing the West Central District - WSSA will benefit and so will you!

You may call or email me regarding the above for more information. Get involved and be part of a growing Wisconsin Social Services Association!

Jaci Fuller, West Central District President  
Wisconsin Social Services Association  
7493 North Road, Eau Claire WI 54701  
phone: 715-225-3978  
email: [tomnjaci58@gmail.com](mailto:tomnjaci58@gmail.com)

## NEEDED: PRESIDENT-ELECT

The President Elect position for 2015/2016 is presently vacant due to a recent resignation. This is a three year term consisting of President Elect the first year, President the following year (2016/2017), and Past President the third year. The President-Elect is the representative of the President on matters referred to him/her and shall upon request of, or in the absence of the President, preside over meetings of the annual conference or Executive Committee.

As a member of WSSA, please consider volunteering for this position. Now is the time to get involved! If you would like more information or are willing to serve, please contact:

Missy Hubacher  
Goodwill Industries of SE WI, Inc. ♦ 2801 Gilson Street ♦ Racine, WI 53403  
Phone: 414-847-4795  
e-mail: [melissa.hubacher@goodwillsew.com](mailto:melissa.hubacher@goodwillsew.com)

# *From the Past President's Pen ...*

## **TO OUR PAST PRESIDENTS**

**Every day Super Heroes  
That what WSSA Presidents are  
Their purpose to serve the people.  
They came from near and far.**

**Their months in office  
went really fast..  
But they did their job  
From beginning to the very last.**

**Some served two terms -  
A replacement couldn't be found.  
Courageous and dedicated  
Super Heroes - they stayed around.**

**Since 1937 when WSSA began -  
78 Presidents have led -  
The Association says Thank You,  
That's all to be said!**

**So here we are today -  
To honor those Presidents past  
Volunteering their time & talent  
So WSSA would last!**

*By Jaci Fuller (6/2015)*

**UPDATE UPDATE UPDATE UPDATE**

Update is published by the Wisconsin Social Services Association.

Submit articles or letters to:

Sherrri Arnold

Goodwill Industries

8600 Sheridan Road • Kenosha, WI 53143

E-mail: [sherrri.arnold@kenoshacounty.org](mailto:sherrri.arnold@kenoshacounty.org)

Phone: 262-697-4549



# CONGRATULATIONS 2015 AWARD WINNERS!

The following were honored on Thursday, June 25, 2015 during the awards luncheon hosted by WSSA President Sherri Arnold and President Elect Missy Hubacher, at the 2015 WSSA conference held at the Kalahari Resort, Wisconsin Dells.

The Social Human Services Award was presented to Sharon Lewis, Resource Specialist/FEP with ResCare for Kenosha County, and Lupe Martinez, President and Chief Executive of UMOS, the largest Hispanic run, non-profit agency in Wisconsin. This award honors the efforts of an individual who has made a unique contribution to and demonstrated outstanding performance in the administration or delivery of human/social services programs.

The WSSA Award for Excellence in Economic Support honors the outstanding efforts of an Income Maintenance Worker who has made a unique contribution to the field of human/social service in the income maintenance profession. This award was presented to the following:  
Tracy Schemmel, Economic Support Specialist for Racine County; Melissa Mortensen, Economic Support Specialist for Racine County; Tiffany McWhorter, Economic Support Specialist for Racine County; Crystal Czarnecki, Economic Support Worker for Kenosha County; Rhonda Hemming, Economic Support Worker for Kenosha County.

The County Board Member Recognition Award was presented to Monica Kruse, La Crosse County. This award is to acknowledge the contributions county board members make to the field of human services, as well as the important role they play in the agency and individual participation in the Wisconsin Social Services Association.

Heather Bieniarz, Administrative Support Specialist (Goodwill Industries) received the Gayl Farris Outstanding Clerical Award. This award, first given in 1981, is to honor an outstanding Clerical worker in the social/human services field. It was established by Gayl Farris, Assistant Director of Oneida County Social Services who won one million dollars in the Canadian National Lottery in 1980, and she gave \$1,000 to WSSA to establish an award for an outstanding clerical worker.

Nikki Lui received the Special Recognition Award by President Sherri Arnold. Nikki is employed by Good Will Industries, Kenosha County. Briana Turk, Richland County, received the President's Award, which honors an individual who has demonstrated an outstanding effort in assisting the President obtaining the goals and objectives of WSSA.

All of the award winners are "Everyday Super Heroes" in the social/human services field!  
Congratulations to all!

Submitted by Jaci Fuller



**All changes in Name, Address, Phone or E-mail should be submitted to:**

Sherri Arnold  
8600 Sheridan Road ♦ Kenosha, WI 53143  
Phone: 262-697-4549  
E-mail: [sherri.arnold@kenoshacounty.org](mailto:sherri.arnold@kenoshacounty.org)

*Please be advised that many of our publications will now be sent via e-mail instead of US Mail.*

# From the Archives...

*"The Pride of the Past is the Promise of the Future"* was the title of the 94th anniversary issue of the Wisconsin Social Services Association Journal Spring/Summer July, 1987, Volume 4, Number 2 (a publication with contributions by members). It was dedicated "To the members of WSSA - past - present - future - who will continue to be the wind beneath the wings of WSSA to fulfill the promise of our past". Rose Hovey and Jackie Bennet were the co-editors.

The following was a portion of the article by Ron Stuber, WSSA President 1998/89:

"Anyway, in search of some wise revelations as to what my blurring eyes saw in the future, I asked myself, 'when are we going to win this war on poverty? When are we going to make fathers responsible for their children? When are we going to quit smoking? When are we going to have enough nuclear weapons? When are we going to feed and house everyone who's hungry and homeless? Would the year 2000 be too soon? Should I look farther - 2050, 3000? Maybe I shouldn't concern myself with such large issues. How about some more manageable ones like 'When will we be able to use Youth aids dollars for prevention? When will CRN be redesigned? What will replace HSRS?' It is my opinion being the procrastinator I am, that these questions will never be answered unless the questions are asked often enough and deadlines are set.

It is not enough to do the best job each of us can within the confinements of the system in which we work. We must strive to change those systems in order to allow some of our present day issues to be resolved. We must individually and collectively be responsible for our fate, Change things while we still can. Before it's too late, I look at our professional organization as a means to impact on our future. Through WSSA it is time to ask questions and demand some answers from ourselves and our society".

It seems the above same questions are still asked today in 2015. Improvements and progress have been made and hopefully WSSA can still make a difference!

The Journal contained many stories and articles from previous presidents and WSSA members. The history of WSSA is full of interesting facts and accomplishments in which everyone involved in the social/human services field had a part in achieving - directors, county board members, social workers, economic support workers, day care coordinators, clerical and homemakers.

Throughout the 52 pages of the Journal, the contributors had many memorable experiences. WSSA has in the past been an organization of dedicated members, working with the State, to better serve the people in the State of Wisconsin. Through policy changes, with WSSA members' input, we can make a difference!

The future of WSSA depends upon its members to step up to the challenge of continuing the goals of WSSA!

Submitted by Jaci Fuller

# WSSA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016**

|                        |  |  |
|------------------------|--|--|
| <b>PRESIDENT</b>       | Missy Hubacher<br>Goodwill Industries of SE WI, Inc.<br>6055 North 91st Street<br>Milwaukee, WI 53225-6518 | Phone: 414-847-4795<br><i>melissa.hubacher@goodwillsew.com</i> |
| <b>PRESIDENT-ELECT</b> | <i>Vacant</i>  |  |
| <b>PAST PRESIDENT</b>  | Sherri Arnold<br>Goodwill Industries/Kenosha County<br>8600 Sheridan Road, Suite 122<br>Kenosha, WI 53143  | Phone: 262-697-4549<br><i>sherri.arnold@kenoshacounty.org</i>  |
| <b>TREASURER</b>       | Sherri Arnold<br>Goodwill Industries/Kenosha County<br>8600 Sheridan Road, Suite 122<br>Kenosha, WI 53143  | Phone: 262-697-4549<br><i>sherri.arnold@kenoshacounty.org</i>  |
| <b>SECRETARY</b>       | <i>Vacant</i>  |  |
| <b>PARLIAMENTARIAN</b> | Jaci Fuller<br>7493 North Road<br>Eau Claire, WI 54701   | Phone: 715-225-3978<br><i>tomnjaci58@gmail.com</i>             |
| <b>HISTORIAN</b>       | Holly M. Jackson<br>207 W. Chippewa Street<br>Cadott, WI 54727   | Phone: 715-271-3476<br><i>jacksonhm@voyager.net</i>            |

## DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

|                      |   |  |
|----------------------|---|--|
| <b>EASTERN</b>       | <i>Vacant</i>   |  |
| <b>NORTH CENTRAL</b> | Julie Van Dahm<br>Wood County DSS<br>P. O. Box 8095<br>Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495                           | Phone: 715-421-8613<br><i>jvandahm@co.wood.wi.us</i>       |
| <b>NORTHLAND</b>     | Cary Breitlow<br>1316 N. 14th Street, Suite 400<br>Superior, WI 54880                                       | Phone: 715-395-7330  |
| <b>SOUTHEASTERN</b>  | Kevin Loef<br>Goodwill Industries/Kenosha County<br>8600 Sheridan Road, Suite 122<br>Kenosha, WI 53143-6508 | Phone: 262-697-4521<br><i>kevin.loef@kenoshacounty.org</i> |
| <b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b> | <i>Vacant</i>   |  |
| <b>WEST CENTRAL</b>  | Jaci Fuller<br>7493 North Road<br>Eau Claire, WI 54701  | Phone: 715-225-3978<br><i>tomnjaci58@gmail.com</i>         |

**Wisconsin Social Service Association  
Membership Application**

Membership Year: July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Type:

New

Renewal (member previous year)

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Category:

Regular... \$25.00

Student... \$12.50

Contributing... \$35.00+

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

Employer Type:

County

State

University (for students)

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

*Return Application & Dues to:*

Sherry Arnold

8600 Sheridan Road

Kenosha, WI 53143

Job Title/Area of Work \_\_\_\_\_