

**newsletter**

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**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2008 10:28 PM  
**Subject:** Obama's Message



December 16, 2008

Dear BCD Colleague:

Greetings from the Center for Clinical Social Work!

As the Obama administration prepares to come to Washington, you, personally, have a wonderful opportunity to hold a meeting in your community that can affect national healthcare policy. I'm hoping that you will want to participate in the *Health Care Community Discussion* program, recently set up by Tom Daschle, Obama's nominee for Secretary of Health & Human Services.

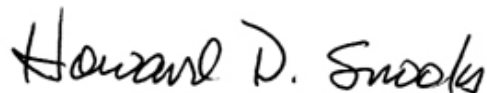
Daschle has asked the Center for Clinical Social Work to help in setting up informal discussions to be held between now and December 30, with reports to be sent in for his review. These *Discussions* are to be held face-to-face among 10-20 persons, whomever you invite (short notice!). Sign up to hold a *Discussion* at the Obama site, <http://change.gov/page/s/hcdiscussion>.

The Center is a member of the Whole Health Campaign, a coalition of organizations concerned about the delivery of health care. The Campaign was created to influence the presidential primaries, and now is working with the Obama transition team and Congress to advise them on healthcare issues and to help them understand the needs of providers and their clients and patients.

To facilitate this process, we at the Center hosted a phone-in "discussion" to talk about clinical social work issues and impart them to Tom Daschle and the Obama administration. You can do the same thing by organizing a meeting among your friends and colleagues. If you have questions or need assistance, please call Michael Brooks at the Center's California office, (888) 279 9378.

Clinical Social Work needs to have a voice in the healthcare proceedings of the new administration, and Tom Daschle is offering us the chance to get started. Please follow through, even with short notice in this frantic season—we're all in the same boat, and we need to start paddling!

Sincerely,



Howard Snooks, Ph.D., BCD  
President, Board of Directors  
Center for Clinical Social Work