



News Release

April 5, 2017

Contact: Amanda Jones
Office: 504-507-7621
Cell: 225-252-7122
amanda.jones6@va.gov

VA's own named 2017 Social Worker of the Year by Louisiana chapter of National Association of Social Workers

NEW ORLEANS –Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System's Jennifer Hannon, clinical social worker, was awarded 2017 Louisiana Social Worker of the Year by the Louisiana chapter of the National Association of Social Workers.

"I was so flattered and humbled to be recognized in that way," said Hannon. "For me, it means that I am living up to my own expectations and am establishing a strong reputation in the community for professional social workers."

Hannon helps homeless Veterans in the Baton Rouge area make the transition to permanent housing, including helping them to create income attainment goals. She also links Veterans with employment, medical, mental health, and substance abuse resources. She also coordinates transitional housing, counseling services, assessments and treatments, and a variety of different topics Veterans will need, such as budgeting, banking, interpersonal skills, and employment.

Hannon's interventions in the community and the Celtic Studios shelter following the devastating August 2016 floods in Baton Rouge were noticed by a retired Army colonel and former supervisor of hers, who chose to nominate her for the award. During the awards ceremony at the NASW annual state conference, she was also cited for her "commendable social work practice" and involvement with different social service organizations.

To those who are just graduating from masters of social work programs and are entering the workforce, Hannon gives these words of wisdom: "Make yourself proud through the quality of your work and represent the profession well."

For more information about the new Veterans medical center, clinic locations and other services available to Veterans in southeast Louisiana, visit the SLVHCS website www.neworleans.va.gov, Facebook page at www.facebook.com/VANewOrleans or Twitter at www.twitter.com/vaneworleans.

-END-