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From the Editor

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Contemporary Rural Social Work
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Editor’s Introduction

With this issue of Contemporary Rural Social Work, CRSW welcomes Dr. Shawn Ginther as Associate Editor. Dr. Ginther earned his M.S.W. and Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley. Following graduation he was appointed Research Gerontologist at the University of California, San Francisco where he worked on local, state, and national policy research initiatives studying the care and treatment of Alzheimer's disease patients. He has over 20 years of experience in social work research. He is replacing Andrew Quinn who has stepped down from this role to focus on other endeavors. CRSW sends a “thank you” to Andrew for his service and wishes him well.

CRSW is growing in terms of its ability to reach interested readers. We have two major successes since our last issue to make CRSW more accessible to practitioners, faculty, and scholars. EBSCO will now include CRSW in their database of journals. Inclusion by EBSCO expands our reach from our website to all interested readers who have access to this heavily subscribed to library database and will increase our readership and the use of research and theoretical articles featured in our journal by practitioners, faculty, and scholars.

CRSW is now accessible internationally as well through CAB Abstracts and Global Health databases. We will also be a part of their full text repository. This means that CRSW can be accessed internationally by scholars who would otherwise not have access. This is a major step because CABI (http://www.cabi.org) is an intergovernmental, not-for-profit organization providing information and scientific services around the world. The CAB Abstracts database aims to document the world's published literature in plant and animal science, agriculture, food, rural sociology, and related subjects. The Global Health database is dedicated to public health research and practice.

CRSW editorial staff is delighted by the recognition of our journal by these important resources.

Volume five has a wide range of featured articles as well as several book reviews. David L. Beimers, Brian Warner, and Paul Mackie discuss racial and ethnic diversity in undergraduate programs in rural areas. Chris R. Locke and Danielea Werner report on stigma related to help-seeking behavior following the Deepwater Horizon oil spill impacting Gulf Shores and Bayou La Batre, Alabama. Two articles are devoted to GLBTQ issues. Dalton Connally and Rose Wedemeyer share the coming out process for Mexican Americans along the rural U.S.-Mexico border while Jean Toner examines rural social workers’ perceptions of training needs for working with LGBTQ identified youth in the foster care system. Matt A. Moore and Betty A. Walton focus on ways to improve the mental health functioning of youth in rural communities. Linda Openshaw presents a study of group interventions in schools to assist with
a community trauma. Lori L. Nooney, Elisabetta Giomo-James, Peter A. Kindle, Debra S. Norris, Ryan R. Myers, Alyssa Tucker, and Robert Jon Stanley investigate an issue that is especially prevalent in rural areas—rural food pantry users’ stigma and safety net food programs.


A hearty thank you to all our reviewers and staff who made this issue possible—especially to our Managing Editor, Amy Phillips.

Peggy Pittman-Munke, Editor-in-Chief