

Alabama Social Work Pioneers

NASW Pioneers are social workers who have explored new territories and built outposts for human services on many frontiers. Some are well known; others less famous outside their immediate colleagues and the region where they live and work. But each has made an important contribution to the social work profession and to social policies through service, teaching, writing, research, program development, administration, or legislation.

All of these social workers are honored in the NASW Pioneer Room in our national office in Washington, DC. The pioneers have prepared the way for thousands of other social workers to make their contributions to the betterment of the human condition. They are all role models for future generations of social workers. The pioneers listed here have all made significant contributions to the field of social work within the state of Alabama.

Bess Adams (1893-1985) Bess Adams was the director of the Bureau of Field Services of the Alabama Department of Social Welfare from its organization in 1935 until the time of her retirement in 1966. Through close association with staff, boards and lay citizens in all 67 counties, she was known and loved widely throughout the state. She represented a continuing liaison between the state department and the county offices. It was said that her wisdom, her depth of understanding of human nature and foibles, her tolerance and her genuine love of people were instrumental in building effective state and county relationships.

Before entering the field of social work in 1930 as assistant child welfare superintendent in Etowah County, she taught school and was associated with the juvenile court. Adams was the county's first director of relief and later the county's first director of public welfare.

Adams was active in the American Public Welfare Association and received several special awards for her effective membership work. She was President of the Alabama Conference of Social Welfare and became historian of that group.

"Miss Bess" was a native Alabaman, went to Huntington College and then received her social work training at the University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration. She taught social work at the University of Alabama.

Her overall goal was service to people and her administrative practice empowered staff to continue to build a sound program of servicing Alabama.

Opal Adams Adams was the training supervisor in the Alabama Department of Social Welfare and spent 30 years in that agency. After her retirement in 1960 she worked temporarily on welfare defense training with the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. Opal Adams went into social work following several years of teaching school. She became St. Clair County's welfare superintendent in 1929. Later she was director of relief and entered the state office in 1935. She was first a field representative and supervisor of case work services before her appointment as training supervisor. She was active in civil defense planning and attended several special defense training courses at the Office of Civil Defense in Battlecreek, Michigan. She was on leave from the department for about 18 months to work on welfare services for the Survival Planning Project.

Adams earned a master's of social work degree from Tulane University and also had extensive training from the National Training Laboratory in Group Development in Bethel, Maine. As the first training supervisor in the Bureau of Administrative Services in the Welfare Department she established high standards of training in that organization. She had an outstanding ability to stimulate people to think and to learn. She was in demand by other states and conferences to lead workshops and participate in programs.

Kitty Austin (1900-) For two decades, Kitty Clyde Austin, ACSW, played a key role in the development of Alabama's social welfare programs. She joined the state public welfare staff in 1946 as assistant director of the Bureau of Field Service. Prior to that she had been with the U.S. Selective Service, with the WPA, the Relief Program and the Child Welfare Program.

She began her career in social work in Chilton County during the depression of the 1930's, having previously been a teacher, principal, and elementary school supervisor. She retired in November 1969 as administrative assistant to the commissioner and director of the Alabama Social Welfare Department's Bureau of Administrative Service - the position she had held since 1948. She had responsibilities including working with the state board and commissioners in all areas of the state and county department operations.

Austin received a B.S. degree from George Peabody College and took graduate social work training at the New York School of Social Work and Tulane University. She was active in the NASW. She had many professional organizational commitments and had participated in the White House Conference on Aging in 1961. At the time of her retirement she was honored by resolutions adopted by the State Board of Pension and Security and the Alabama Association of County Directors of Pension and Security.

Martha Branscombe (-1997) From her first employment in 1931 as an Assistant to the Speaker, Alabama House of Representatives, to her last major assignments from 1954 to 1965 as Chief of United Nations Social Services Division, Dr. Martha Branscombe has been a leader in state, national, and international social welfare activities. During the depression years, she served the Alabama Relief Administration as County Director of the Department of Social Welfare as a Regional Advisor. She moved on in 1936 to work with the Tennessee Valley Authority as Consultant on Family Relations to the Land Management Division. Having decided upon social work as her professional career, she took time out to earn both her master's and doctor of philosophy degrees at the University of Chicago. While at Chicago, she had the good fortune of serving as an Assistant to Professor Sophonisba P. Breckinridge and Dean Edith Abbott.

In 1942, the U.S. Children's Bureau, then in the Department of Labor, took on the task of preliminary planning for post-War relief for children. Dr. Branscombe was recruited as a Consultant on International Planning. When the Children's Bureau initiative led to planning for international relief in the Department of State, Dr. Branscombe was loaned to the Department as an assistant to the Director. This activity, in turn, resulted in the creation in 1943 of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. At the first meeting to organize the agency, she served as an assistant to the U.S. delegation. She then joined UNRRA Headquarters in Washington, DC to participate in organizing and staffing the Social Welfare Section. Early in 1944, as the European Office of UNRRA was being organized in London, she was assigned to assist in establishing the Social Service Division and became temporary head of the Child Welfare Section.

Following the end of World War II in Europe, Dr. Branscombe returned to Washington headquarters as Chief of Child Welfare. In 1946, she moved on to direct the European operations of the U.S. Committee for the Care of European Children.

As Director of European Operations for the U.S. Committee, Dr. Branscombe was based in Frankfurt, Germany, and worked in close cooperation with U.S. and Allied Military Forces and UNRRA.

As a fitting capstone to her distinguished career, Dr. Branscombe joined the United Nations Secretariat in New York City as Chief of the Social Services Division in the Department of Social Affairs. In this position from 1954 to 1965, her leadership had far-reaching results, particularly in the new nations of the Third World.

After she left the United Nations, Dr. Branscombe returned to Washington to take on a series of Senior Advisory positions, first with the Head Start Program, then with the Department of State, and finally, with the Vietnam Bureau in the Agency for International Development.

Myrtle Brooke (1872 - 1948) Myrtle Brooks was a native of Canton, Georgia who spent most of her life in Montevallo, Alabama. In 1948 she became the chairperson of the Department of Psychology and Education at the Alabama College for Women, now the University of Montevallo.

In 1924, she organized a sociology department. At that time, Alabama was one of only a few states operating child welfare programs. She recognized the need for trained workers, and in 1925 she began the first two-year undergraduate social work curriculum in the state, and one of the first in the nations. Her students gained field experience in Shelby County.

Louise Pittman, former director of the Bureau of Family and Children's Services of the State Department of Pensions and security recalls "Miss Brooke had a remarkable capacity to demonstrate to young workers the need to help people help themselves. She stimulated her students to think as well as care."

Miss Brooke is remembered as saying, "We never do anything for a client that he can do for himself or that we can persuade his family to do for him. This takes time, but it is worth time to see a family pull itself up by its own bootstraps."

Under her leadership, the University of Montevallo became the training center for social work in Alabama as a primary site for social work conferences, institutes, and short course of intensified study.

Her work with the Shelby County Board of Public Welfare and the county Child Welfare Board helped further understanding of the needs of people and the resources available for meeting those needs, and was directly related to the growth of the state welfare program. She was also a leader in the establishment of the first statewide mental health organization and the Alabama Conference of Social Work.

This extraordinary teacher, executive and scholar, who initiated the first Alabama degree program in social work, was a beloved University of Montevallo professor for forty years.

Amanda Odelle Carmichael Amanda Carmichael was born on April 20, 1906. She received her AB from Alabama College in 1926, and her MSW degree from Tulane University in 1946.

She was public welfare director in two different counties in Alabama. She was then state office field representative, director of war services, and director of information services. Another position she held was president of the Alabama Conference of Social Work.

She had outstanding leadership as legislative liaison with the Alabama Legislature from 1940-1960, and supervisor of publications.

Social Work Pioneer – 1992

Ada Causey (-1975) Causey was known for leadership in the field of child care in Alabama and throughout the southeastern states. She was widely recognized by national organizations and agencies such as the Child Welfare League of America and the United States Children's Bureau. For 31 years, she was the supervisor of the division of the child caring institutions and agencies in the Alabama State Department's Bureau of Child Welfare. Earlier she had worked in a county relief administration and had other positions in the Department of Public Welfare.

In her position she demonstrated her tremendous respect for licensing laws and the protection which they provide to the child, his family and the community. She made major contributions towards the development of rules and regulations implementing Alabama's licensing law for child care facilities. Her concept of licensing responsibility was not limited to enforcement of regulations; rather hers was a creative approach based on her commitment to helping the providers to want to provide good child care and to assist them in meeting requirements for a license. She worked with other state departments and church and community groups to assist all of them with their programs concerning children.

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Allene Colvin Allene Colvin received her BS degree from the University of Montevallo. She did graduate social work training at Tulane University.

She spent 33 years doing social work in Alabama. One position she held was the Director of Public Welfare. She was an excellent administrator. She utilized her clinical knowledge in child welfare to support staff in direct services. Ms. Colvin was highly respected by her staff and peers. Other positions she held were caseworker, child welfare worker, child welfare consultant, and supervisor.

Ms. Colvin was an active leader in community and state organizations. She was the President of the Alabama Association of County Directors, a member of the hospital auxiliary, member of business and professional women's clubs, community action committees, and church organizations.

Margaret Ellen Copeland Margaret Copeland received her AB degree from the University of Montevallo, and her MS degree from the University of Alabama, and did some graduate work at the University of Chicago.

Ms. Copeland had an outstanding career in social work. She was the Calhoun County (AL) Director of Pensions and Security for almost 17 years, when she retired. She was one of the first county directors to develop a plan to maximize private funding through contracts for child day care. She established an adult homemaker service, adult day care, and initiated school counseling programs. Her work with the agency included a period of employment with the Bureau of Child Welfare that spanned a total of 23 years.

As head of Calhoun County's public welfare department, Ms. Copeland had always worked diligently for improvements in social services, whether administered by Pensions and Security or by others. Under her leadership, Pensions and Security was one of the

first to establish a contract program for child day care under Title IV of the Social Security Act, and also one of the first to set up a Title XX advisory board.

Ms. Copeland gave outstanding leadership in organizing and uniting voluntary groups and developing new resources. She helped establish the Cerebral Palsy Association, and the Mental Health Association Committee of Unified Leadership. She also offered leadership and support to state staff, at the same time maintaining her knowledge of local situations to enhance the administration of programs both in Calhoun County and other counties.

Social Work Pioneer – 1994

Frederick Delliquadri (1916-1989) Pardo Frederick Delliquadri (Fred), a pioneer all of his life, was Dean of four major schools of social work, Chief of the U.S. Children's Bureau, a State Director for Children and Youth in three different states, as well as the U.S. Representative to the Executive Board of UNICEF, and the U.S. Delegate to the Inter-American Children's Institute.

Delliquadri was born and grew up in Pueblo, Colorado. After graduating from high school in 1934, he won a 4-year scholarship to the University of Colorado where he received his B.A. degree in 1938 and was elected to several honor societies including Phi Beta Kappa. He received his Masters of Science in Social Work degree from the University of Nebraska in 1941. His first position in social welfare was as State Certification Officer for the Work Progress Administration in Wyoming (1938-1939). As a graduate assistant in the University of Nebraska (1940-41) he participated in a Brookings Institute study of the Public Welfare Programs in Nebraska and supervised field works students on field trips.

Following graduation, he became a Senior Children's Worker in the County Welfare Department in Washington State. During World War II, he was a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy Reserve. In 1946 he became supervisor of Children's Services in the Wyoming State Department of Public Welfare, and in 1948 the Superintendent of the Division of Child Welfare in the Illinois Department of Public Welfare. Beginning in 1950, Delliquadri served for ten years as the Director for Children and Youth in the Wisconsin Department of Public Welfare. During these years he was also a social welfare adviser to the United Nations and lecturer at the University of Wisconsin. From 1960 to 1967 he was Dean of the Columbia University School of Social Work. From 1967 to 1968 he was the Dean of the University of Hawaii's School of Social Work.

Delliquadri became Chief of the Children's Bureau at the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. With a change of administration and pending reorganization, Delliquadri left this post, in 1969, to become the Dean of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, School of Social Welfare. In 1972, he moved south and became the first Dean of the University of Alabama School of Social Work.

During his eight years of service as a representative of UNICEF, he visited many countries and listened to the needs of children from tribal leaders in third world countries. He shared his expertise with South American social workers as Representative to the Inter-American Children's Institute in Uruguay and as a United Nations Social Welfare Advisor to El Salvador.

Among his many honors were the NASW Award for outstanding services to the social work profession in 1960, and an HEW Award for distinguished service as Chairman of the Federal Panel on Delinquency in 1967. In 1968, Delliquadri received a Foneme International Prize from the Institute for Studies in Research and Human Formation in Milan, Italy, and a Distinguished Alumni Award for Outstanding Service to Humanity from the University of Colorado in 1969. He was active in many organizations concerned with child welfare services and juvenile delinquency. In all of his many involvements with social work education and program development, he maintained an extraordinary sense of humor and a practical no-nonsense approach to problem solving.

Mary Cobb DeShazo (1917-) Mary Cobb DeShazo had a great interest in children. It evolved from her teacher training at Alabama College, her work with children at church, and her experience as a first grade teacher in the early 1940's. She assisted in training the first Head Start staff in Alabama. During her 20 years with the Bureau of Family and Children's Services, she supervised the unit responsible for licensing and providing consultant services to the state's day care facilities.

The Mary Cobb DeShazo Award was established to be given annually to individuals in the child care field. This honor was given to Mrs. DeShazo by the Alabama Conference of Child Care.

Although most of her career with Pensions and Security had been spent working with child caring facilities, she has also been a caseworker, and served as county director in two counties in Alabama. She earned a master's degree in social work from Tulane University.

Social Work Pioneer – 1993

Loula Friend Dunn (1896-1977) Loula Dunn spent over 40 years of her life in public welfare, at both the state and national levels. She began her career as a caseworker, later served as head of the Alabama Department of Public Welfare, and then became executive director of the American Public Welfare Association (APWA).

After attending Alabama Polytechnic Institute – now Auburn University and the University of North Carolina, she began her social work career as a caseworker with the State Child Welfare Department in 1923.

Ten years later, Miss Dunn had served as field representative, casework supervisor and assistant director. In 1932, she was named director of the Social Service Division of the newly created Alabama Relief Administration, in which capacity she served until pressed into service on the national level with the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, and later the Works Progress Administration. Working at WPA headquarters in New Orleans, Miss Dunn supervised the program in 12 states. She returned to state-level service in October 1937, when she was appointed the second Commissioner of Public Welfare in Alabama.

During her tenure as Commissioner, Miss Dunn made her mark on public welfare in the state. Her many activities included serving as President of the Alabama Conference of Social Work, serving on the board of three state training schools, as a member of the State Defense Council, and as the Governor's representative to the 1940 White House Conference on Children in Democracy. She also played an active role in developing undergraduate training for social work in the state. In 1940, she received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Alabama College at Montevallo.

She resigned as Commissioner in 1948 to become Executive Director of the APWA. On the occasion of her resignation as Commissioner, she was universally lauded – by the state press, her associates, and public officials for the excellence and dedication of her public service.

Miss Dunn was the APWA's first woman executive. From 1948 until her retirement in 1964, she played a key role in bringing together social welfare leaders from all over the country to help study and draft legislation establishing many federally funded social work welfare programs. She influenced many, and during her long career she maintained close associations with such public figures as Eleanor Roosevelt, Lyndon Johnson, and Nelson Rockefeller.

Social Work Pioneer - 1995

Judith Hall Gresham Judith Hall Gresham provided leadership for the development of pioneer child welfare programs in Alabama. Her work encouraged professional education, and consistently held to the principle that there could be no status quo or ordinary way of doing things. She developed an early child-centered statewide program based on sound legislation, which has insured its continuance over the years.

Gresham became a member of the Alabama Department of Child Welfare staff in 1925 and served there for thirty-nine years. She believed that public social services should be available to every child in the child's community. To that end, she worked to ensure this concept was implemented in both law and practice. She was a strong advocate for the preservation of children's rights as individuals, with full regard for the rights of natural parents.

Her first job was as a child labor inspector, in the state child welfare department. She later became a caseworker and received various promotions. She was named to head the Bureau of Child Welfare when it was created in 1930s, and served in that position until her retirement in 1964. Under her leadership, Alabama was the first state to have its state plan approved for Child Welfare Services under the Title VI of the Social Security Act, a major program development in the 1930s. Gresham was active in many state and national organizations, including the Child Welfare League of America and the American Public Welfare Association. She also headed the Alabama Mental Health Association and was active in the American Association of Social Workers. She was also active in community and civic organizations in her home community of Melbrook, Alabama.

Howard Gustafson Howard Gustafson was a graduate of the University of Minnesota and the Mandel School of Applied Social Services, Case Western Reserve University. He was active as a social work leader in Cleveland as well as in Houston, Texas, where he worked with the Community Council of Houston and Harris County.

He was elected president of NASW in 1964. At that time he was serving as executive director of the Community Service Council of Indianapolis, a position he had held since 1952. He was also serving as a member of several committees and board of directors in Indianapolis, and was a consultant to the Ford Foundation Research Project in Community Organization for the Elderly. Prior to his election as NASW's sixth president, he had served the Association in a leadership capacity as member-at-large on the Board of Directors (1957-1960); second vice president (1960-1962); and chair of the Committee on Chapter-National Relations (since 1963). Additionally, he held numerous committee assignments in the Central Indiana Chapter, to which he belonged.

A respected authority in the field of community organization, he was a powerful advocate of social work cooperation on the "War on Poverty". He was also among those directly responsible for the formation of - and was a participating member of - the Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) Community Action Against Poverty in Indianapolis. He took the occasion in his inaugural address as NASW president in 1965 to stress the antipoverty challenge to social work saying: "We expect as social workers, to give a good account of ourselves in such efforts - and to lead the way in making adaptations and innovations." On March 25, 1965, as NASW president elect, he participated in the Freedom March in Montgomery, Alabama, and wrote an account of that experience in an article that appeared on the front page of NASW News in May 1965. He recalled:

On the way back home, I tried to analyze what the civil rights struggle means to our Association...I was wondering whether social workers, and NASW in particular are Really prepared to act on social issues in their own communities and in their own Agencies...This is what I've been thinking about since returning home from Montgomery.

NASW celebrated its 10th anniversary during which was to have been the first year of Gustafson's two-year term as its president. On December 9, 1965, he opened the proceedings at NASW's 10th Anniversary Awards Dinner with these words:

As an association we have reached an important milestone. In these first 10 years We have witnessed a spectacular growth in numbers...What is most satisfying, However, is the rich and varied program that has evolved, through which we strive To further the responsible and progressive development of the social work profession.

On May 28, 1966, while in Chicago to attend the NASW Seminar on Social Action, he died suddenly of a heart attack. He was 50 years old. In his honor, NASW established a major award - the Howard F. Gustafson Award - and also undertook sponsorship of the Howard F. Gustafson Fund, established by the Community Service Council of Indianapolis.

Cathryn Sammons Guyler Guyler is known for pioneering activity with the National Commission of Social Work Careers which was jointly sponsored by the Council on Social Work Education and the National Association of Social Workers. As Director, she developed a nationwide program to recruit qualified persons for social work positions and social work education. She maintained close relationships with individual and group utilization of resources, personnel practice, standards, admissions and curriculum development for professional education. She assisted in expansion of social work education. Guyler also developed a variety of media materials for public information.

Guyler received her Bachelor's of Arts Degree from Limestone College, Gafney, South Carolina, in 1933 and Master of Science Degree from the School of Social Work, Public Health, College of William and Mary, Richmond, VA in 1934. She received a diploma from the New York School of Social Work, now Columbia University in 1940. She has also received certificates from universities and workshops, including Catholic University and the University of Alabama.

A large part of her career, from 1969 - 1982, was spent as a staff development training specialist for the Department of Health and Human Services; in the Bureau of Staff Development and Manpower Development; in the Bureau of Family Services of the Social Security Administration; and the Social and Rehabilitative Services. She was responsible for introducing a systematic approach to personnel development and management, to state administrators, and to help states develop training programs and educational programs essential to their work within the state public social services.

Prior to her work in recruitment and staff development, she taught at the New York School of Social Work as an assistant professor and Director of Administration. She worked for four years with the Arthur Lehman Counseling Services in New York, as Consultant on Community Relations. She also worked with the National Committee on Social Work and Defense Mobilization. She was a program consultant to the Junior League in New York, and provided consultation to the National Association of Day Nurseries. During World War II, she served on the United States Committee for the care of European Children in New York City. From 1934 to 1940, she worked with the New York Department of Public Welfare as a child welfare worker consultant and as a consultant to the juvenile courts and state training schools. Guyler has published numerous articles.

Eulene Hawkins (1906 - 1999) Eulene Hawkins received her A.B. degree cum laude from Judson College in Marion, Alabama with a major in mathematics. She received her MSW from Columbia University in New York with major concentration in child Welfare Administration. Hawkins has provided sixty years of leadership to social service programs. She has worked in local, state, federal, private, and public welfare settings.

Her outstanding service has been recognized by awards and citations from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare now Health and Human Services. She has received five different awards from the American Red Cross, the Southeastern Regional Manpower Coordinating Committee, Florida State Advisory Committee Social Work Education Planning Project, East Tennessee State University, Alabama State University, the University of Alabama School of Social Work and the Howard D. Dundee Distinguished Service Award The Alabama Legislature Resolution of Commendation established the Eulene Hawkins Social Work award at Tri-State University. Hawkins also received the state of Alabama Department of Pensions and Security now Human Resources Retirement Citation, the Alabama of Conference of Social Work Social Worker of the Year, NASW award, Social Worker of the Year, NASW Alabama chapter, Lifetime Achievement award from NASW, 1991, and the Lifetime Achievement award from Montgomery and Seniors of Achievement the Montgomery Area Council on Aging.

It is difficult to examine just one period of Eulene Hawkins' pioneering efforts. Her efforts resulted in the awards in the previous paragraph in which she was a very versatile social worker and very able to provide leadership in a variety of settings and areas. Her period in Alabama from 1932 to 1942 with the University Child Welfare Department, the only social agency of the county offered a home for numerous federal programs. This was a beginning of a county unemployment office, the FRA, an Alabama farm administration. During this period the state and county public welfare were established in accordance with the Social Security Act. Her employment covered a broad range of jobs and activities. As mentioned earlier she worked from 1932 to 1942 with the Child Welfare Department in Alabama, she worked for Red Cross and served as the Director of Home Services in the Washington, D.C.

for 19 years. A family service program was developed with the Red Cross which grew to 100 during World War II. She became the Training and Manpower Development Specialist at the Social Rehabilitation Service where she further developed her commitment to professionalism through in-service training and full utilization of graduate and undergraduate education in social work. She worked in the central office and at length in the regional offices in the capacity of training and manpower development specialist. She provided technical assistance to regional and state officials on the administration of staff development programs. She also provided consultation to schools of social work. Most outstanding particularly of her work in Atlanta was the administration of Title 707 of the Social Security Act which provided undergraduate and graduate funds to schools of social work and also stipends to people. She was particularly recognized for her work in improving minority faculty in schools and in the development of minority stipends particularly with African-American social workers. When she retired from the federal government in 1976, she returned to work in Alabama and continued to provide assistance to graduate and undergraduate schools in the state. After leaving this job, she became the first executive director of the Alabama chapter of NASW where she promoted growth in membership, an increase of interest in the association, and the development of outstanding Workshops and conferences. Following her retirement as the executive director of the Alabama chapter of NASW she continued volunteer work with social work education institutions and has been heavily involved in work with the children's rights area and "Kid Count". She has also established a group to develop a research plan for study of Title VII section 707 - Grants to universities and individuals. She indeed represents a lifetime of professional achievement. She added a case in practices continued learning, competency and compassion for people in need of social services.

Margaret Warren Jordan (1910-) Margaret Jordan was born on October 5, 1910. A native of Jackson in Clarke County Alabama, and a graduate of Huntingdon College, Ms. Jordan received her master's degree from the University of Chicago. She gained experience early in social work by working while in school for the Social Science Research Council on University Projects.

Ms. Jordan worked for the Department of Pensions and Security for almost 46 years. She joined the state staff in 1935 as a field representative. Her work in public welfare went back even farther, however, because she worked with the Cook County Department of Public Welfare in Chicago and with the Montgomery County Relief Administration in Montgomery, Alabama.

In 1936, Ms. Jordan was charged by then Commissioner Albert Collins with setting up a program of research and statistics for the young agency. She headed the unit-late considerably expanded and known as the Bureau of Management Information-until Commissioner Gary Cooper appointed her in 1979 as his Special Assistant in Research and Statistics.

Admired widely for her keen intelligence as well as her compassion for people, Ms. Jordan never confined her remarkable talents solely to Alabama or the Department of Pensions and Security. The undergraduate course in social work that she taught at Montgomery's Huntingdon College was one of the first of its kind in the country. In fact, many other colleges and universities instituted similar courses on the basis of material that she developed for hers.

Through the years, Ms. Jordan kept up with nationwide activities in social service administration and shared her expertise with those of similar interests through participation in institutes, seminars and continuing education courses. Extremely active in the American Public Welfare Association, she served on several state, regional and national planning committees and was a valued member of the Federal Reporting Committee of the Council on State Public Welfare Administrators.

Clara Mae Lloyd (1908-1976) Lloyd was one of Alabama's foremost leaders in the field of child welfare. She held positions in the state office as field representative and then became supervisor in the Division of Foster Home Care and Adoption. In the 1960's, she served as local project director in Dallas County of a field foundation project related to the strengthening of services to ADC families. One of the findings of this project reinforced the concept that better services were provided when case loads were limited.

A native of Georgia, Lloyd graduated from Judson College. She studied at the University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration and later attended Jones Law School. She was active in a number of professional organizations, including the Child Welfare League of America, APWA, the Alabama Conference of Child Care, the Mental Health Association, Alabama Conference of Social Work, and NASW.

She provided the principle leadership in the establishment of the Central Alabama Youth Services. Its group home for girls in Selma is named in her honor in recognition of her many years of service to children and youth in the state and county. She was known as a friend to all children and to spoke out, with strong conviction, about the protection of children and the value of supportive services for their parents. Her resourcefulness and competent guidance influenced many workers and community groups to improve their practices and programs. Her last work was done at the county level in Dallas County. She transferred there after her many years working in the state office.

Catherine Moloney Catherine Moloney was a graduate of St. Mary's of Notre Dame in Indiana. She received her professional social work education at the University of Chicago and Tulane University Schools of Social Work, being awarded the MSW from the latter institution.

Ms. Moloney had a record of service in Alabama spanning a 40-year period. She retired from the State Department at the end of December 1975. Beginning in Tuscaloosa County when the agency was the Department of Public Welfare, Ms. Moloney also

worked in Walker County before joining the State staff in 1945. During World War II, she served for more than two years with the American Red Cross.

Because she was a truly conscientious "grass roots" child welfare worker herself for several years, she brought a background of personal experience to the State Department as she assumed supervisory and training responsibilities relative to work with children in their own homes, with children in foster care, and in the development and strengthening of protective services.

Her work was statewide, as she headed the Division of County Consultant Service, and her leadership was a strong factor in the development of sound child welfare practices. Ms. Moloney's positive contributions in the whole area of services to children, thousands of Alabama boys and girls were helped toward a normal adulthood.

As a child welfare training supervisor, Ms. Moloney imparted information and understanding to young workers and helped them to grow on the job. She was also able to determine areas where staff were proficient and those where they needed future help and study.

In addition to her agency responsibilities, Ms. Moloney had been active in numerous professional organizations, among them NASW, ACSW, the American Public Welfare Association, the Alabama Council on Crime and Delinquency as past president, the Alabama Conferences of Social Work and of Child Care, and the Child Welfare League of America.

After retirement, she took advantage of travel opportunities, continued to participate in church and community activities, and to enjoy association with her many friends.

Essie D. Morgan After earning her MSW degree at Atlanta University, Morgan joined the staff of the Veterans Administration Hospital in Tuskegee, Alabama. There she developed a community placement program for psychiatric patients which served as a model for the VA's psychiatric hospital system.

In 1965, Morgan joined the VA's Washington Central Office, Social Work staff, where she became the Chief, Community Service Section. In this capacity, she provided national leadership and direction in the out-placement of patients into community care settings. She also served as liaison social worker to the Spinal Cord Injury Service. Later, she became the first Chief of a newly created program, Socio-Economic Rehabilitation and Staff Development, for the Spinal Cord Injury Service, a program that grew out of her effective work as the liaison social worker.

In recognition of her demonstrated administrative and leadership qualities, the VA Administrator of the Department of Veterans Benefits selected her for the post of Area Field Director, Western Region. She completed her VA career as the Manager, Washington, DC Regional Office. She was the first black woman to hold these positions.

Among her many awards were the Federal Career Women's Award from the Civil Service Commission, and the Speedy Award from the Paralyzed Veterans of America, an award she prized above all others.

Ben Avis Orcutt Dr. Orcutt served the University of Alabama as Professor of Social Work and Director of the Doctoral Program until her retirement in 1983. She also held various positions in clinical social work and voluntary posts in Phoenix, Birmingham, Atlanta, and Tuscaloosa.

Dr. Orcutt has contributed extensively to the advancement social work theory and practice through professional organization, such as CSWE and NASW. She served on the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Social Work* and was active in the Group for the Advancement of Doctoral Education for which she was *The Newsletter* editor and 1983 program chairperson.

Dr. Orcutt is well known for her research and publications in the areas of clinical social work, social work and poverty, social work with the dying and their families, and has edited or co-authored *Social Work and Thanatology*, *Poverty and Social Casework Services*, and *Social Work with the Dying Patient and the Family*.

She received her MSW from Tulane University in 1942, and a DSW in 1962 from Columbia University.

Social Work Pioneer – 1993

Louise Pittman Louise Pittman's pioneering work is most evident in her position as director of the Bureau of Family and Children Services in Alabama from 1964 to 1988. In this position, she developed innovative approaches to adoption services and to staff development.

Pittman began her work in the social work field as a truant officer and school attendant officer in 1935. During the Great Depression, she had to help families and children obtain adequate clothes and food so that children could go to school. She worked with church groups to set up food kitchens, and in her summers worked with the Works Progress Administration taking job applications.

A graduate with a degree in sociology from Montevallo University in Alabama, Pittman later attended graduate school at the University of Chicago, where she received her master's degree in social service administration. She was hired in 1938 as a special child welfare worker. In 1940, she began working with the State Department of Public Welfare in foster care and adoption. She has been active in Child Welfare League of America, American Public Welfare Association, and NASW. She retired and currently lives in Montgomery, Alabama.

Charles S. Prigmore Charles Prigmore is a distinguished author, legislator, and advocate for social policy and political process. In the School of Social Work, University of Alabama, Dr. Prigmore taught Social Policy as it relates to probation and parole with special emphasis on Correctional Program. He was an Exchange Lecturer to Iran, Australia, and Norway in Administration and Advocacy Role. He was Executive Director Joint Commission on Correctional Manpower and Training, in Washington, DC.

Dr. Prigmore received his MSW in 1947 from the University of Wisconsin; and his PhD in Sociology and Social Work in 1961 also from the University of Wisconsin.

Some of the honors and awards he received are: *Who's Who in the World*; in which he was listed in 8 editions; Conservation Award, Woodmen of the World; Alpha, Distinguished Alumni of University of Chattanooga; *11th Edition of American Men of Science*; *Dictionary of International Biography*; *Who's Who in the South and Southwest*; *Who's Who in Alabama*; Community Leader of America; Fellow, Royal Society of Health; Fellow, American Sociological Association; *International Scholars' Dictionary*; Two Thousand Men of Achievement; and *Who's Who Among Authors and Journalists*.

He was a charter member of NASW.

Social Work Pioneer - 1993

Mary Proctor Mary Proctor was born on February 19, 1919. She received a BA from the University of Alabama, and a MSW from Tulane University.

Ms. Proctor served in the Bureau of Child Welfare until late 1950 when she was transferred to the Bureau of Public Assistance where she was later named Supervisor of the Division of Medical Care. She became Assistant Director of that Bureau in January 1971, and three months later was named Director.

Ms. Proctor was active in numerous professional organizations, among them the American Public Welfare Association, the Alabama and National Vocational Rehabilitation Associations, the Alabama Conference of Social Work, the American Association of University Women, NASW, the Governor's Alcoholism Advisory Council, and the Alabama Advisory Council for Comprehensive Health Planning. Since retirement she was a member of Montgomery Adult Protective Services Multidisciplinary Team, the first team established in Alabama.

Social Work Pioneer – 1992

William C. Pugh (1921-1989) In a social work career spanning over 35 years, William "Bill" C. Pugh developed and implemented social service programs for thousands of Alabama's citizens. Many of his innovations brought national acclaim to the Alabama social work community: the development of the state's first legal services program for the poor in cooperation with the Alabama Law School, the development of the first model day care program in the state through the University of Alabama School of Home Economics, and the establishment of the state's first statewide advocacy program for individuals with developmental disabilities.

During the period between 1969 and 1972, Pugh served as the first Deputy Commissioner of the Alabama Department of Pensions and Security (now Human Resources). His creative approach to the use of federal social service funding under Titles IV-A and XX of the Social Security Act resulted in significant improvement in the quality of life for poor adults and children, the mentally ill, and the developmentally disabled in Alabama. The programs developed under his leadership during those important times were viewed as national "models" by many professionals in other states and the nation.

Following his long career with the state's Department of Pensions and Security, Pugh assumed the position of Special Assistant for Academic Development with the University of Alabama. His creative social work skills resulted in the establishment of the nation's first management training program for welfare administrators. Participants in this training program are now providing administrative leadership in various social service programs in over 40 states.

Pugh's career took another turn when he "retired" from the University of Alabama and began work as Director of AGAPE of Central Alabama, a children's agency devoted to services to unmarried mothers, adoption placement, marriage counseling, and other family services. Pugh's legacy to the social work community in Alabama goes far beyond the program developments and management improvements he spearheaded. His most significant legacy is perhaps the identification and "discovery" of potential social work talent in the scores of young professionals he recruited, trained, and encouraged during his career. Those social workers cause his name and spirit to continue as they work to improve the quality of life for others.

Pugh received an MSW degree from Florida State University and a BS from the University of Alabama. He was nominated for NASW's National Social Worker of the Year in 1983. The social work profession and the state of Alabama lost a leader and pioneer with the death of Bill Pugh.

Margaret Elizabeth Rowe (1907-1991) Margaret Rowe was born on October 9, 1907. She received her AB degree from Alabama College in 1929, and her MSW degree from Tulane University in 1946.

Ms. Rowe was Assistant Director of the Bureau of Public Assistance, Department of Public Welfare, in Alabama. She developed the first Work Incentive Programs in Alabama, working closely with employment services and county offices. She also worked closely with family and children's division on establishing day care policies concerning eligibility.

She was the President of the Alabama Conference of Social Work.

She died on June 14, 1991.

Social Work Pioneer – 1992

Leslie John Shellhase (1924 - 2002) Leslie Shellhase was born on January 12, 1924 in Hardy, Nebraska. He received his AB degree from Midland College in 1947, his MSW degree from the University of Nebraska in 1950, and his DSW degree from Catholic University in 1961.

Mr. Shellhase held various professional positions: parole supervisor, in child welfare in Omaha, 1948-49; psychiatric social work intern at Letterman General Hospital in San Francisco, 1950-51; second lieutenant United States Army, 1949; advanced through grades to lt. colonel, 1966; chief social worker, 6th Infantry Division, Ft. Ord California, 1952-55; chief medical social worker, Walter Reed General Hospital, Washington, DC, 1955-57; research investigator, Walter Reed Institute Research, 1957-63; head social work faculty Med. Field Service School, Ft. Sam Houston, Texas, 1963-66; chief sociologist U.S. Army, Washington, DC, 1966-69; professor of University of Alabama, School of Social Work, 1968; private practice social work, 1968; Family Service Association American, 1969; and expert group on social welfare UN, 1975.

Mr. Shellhase wrote *The Group Life of the Schizophrenic Patient*, 1961; and *Bibliography of Army Social Work*, 1962. He contributed articles on social and behavioral science to national and international professional journals, and wrote chapters for books.

He received the Decorated Legion of Merit for his scientific achievement as the chief sociologist in the United States Army, the Bronze Star, and the Purple Heart. He was the recipient of letters of commendation from the President of the United States in 1968, and letters of commendation from the Surgeon General in 1961. Also a great honor for him was being listed in *Who's Who in America* and *Who's Who in the World*.

Mr. Shellhase belonged to many organizations throughout his career: in 1955, he was the chairman of the last chapter (Monterey Bay/Peninsula) ever formed in the American Association of Social Workers. Others were member of NASW, ACSW, Council on Social Work Education, National Conference Social Welfare, British Sociology Association, British Association Social Workers, ACLU, Retired Officers Association, Pershing Rifles, and Hastings Society.

Social Work Pioneer – 1994

Louise Fleming Surratt Louise Surratt was born on October 19, 1904. She received an AB from the University of Montevallo, and did some graduate work at the University of North Carolina and the University of Chicago.

Most of her work was in the Colbert County part of Alabama. The Alabama Child Welfare Department in 1933 employed her as a child welfare superintendent. She was exceedingly efficient in developing a local public program, and interpreting social services to the community, that she became the first director of Colbert County's Department of Public Welfare in 1935. This is where she remained until her retirement in 1976.

Ms. Surratt was Vice President of the Alabama County Director's Association, a member of the Alabama Public Welfare Association Committee, and active in civic and church work.

Loraine Bedsole Tunstall (1879-1953) Loraine Bedsole Tunstall was the founder of Alabama's public welfare program. She was instrumental in the establishment of the State Child Welfare Department in 1919, and was that agency's first director. In addition, under her leadership, the Public Welfare Act of 1935 was enacted only thirteen days after the Social Security Act of 1935 was passed by the Congress.

The soundness of her philosophies in regard to public social services which had been demonstrated throughout the years in the foundations that she laid in Alabama, withstood the inevitable changes in society. Her interest began with the child labor movement; she was dedicated to improving services to children and she was instrumental in ensuring the passage of progressive adoption laws. Her husband, a state legislator, provided her with guidance on legislative matters.

After her death, her brother in 1972, established a \$500,000 memorial trust fund for several purposes. For one, the trust would create a living monument to Alabama's foremost pioneer, Tunstall, in the area of public social services through the restoration of the Old Mobile General Hospital. The building was renovated to include offices of the Mobile County Department of Pension and Security and more adequate space for welfare offices so that they could provide improved services to children. Her brother also gave a portrait of Tunstall to the State Department of Archives where the portrait now hangs. Her papers and other memorabilia are available at the Alabama State Department of Archives.

Katherine Vickery (1898-1978) After earning degrees from North Georgia College and George Peabody College for Teachers, Dr. Vickery taught psychology at the University of Montevallo from 1922 to 1968. It was during this period that she touched the lives of students deeply. She taught many people going into the field of social work. Many of them have given generously to a University of Montevallo memorial scholarship established in her honor in 1978; appropriately recognizing the outstanding qualities of mind and spirit which distinguished her career.

Dr. Vickery served as president of the Alabama Psychological Association and was a fellow of the Alabama Academy of Science and of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. As national president of Kappa Delta Pi, she was awarded the honor key, laureate—a distinction given to select living members of the national honorary.

Katherine Vickery, educator and innovator, was more than merely a woman who made a name for herself in her profession nationally. An outspoken advocate of women's rights, she chaired the subcommittee of the Alabama Governor's Commission on the Status of Women and during that time was instrumental in putting together a two-day conference held on the Alabama College Campus in 1950. The conference, the first of its kind in Alabama, attracted outstanding speakers and professional women from all over the nation and represented a milestone in the history of the Women's Rights Movement in our state and region.

Her greatest contribution to the cause of women's rights was her work as a charter member of the American Association of University Women, wherein she stood up for her female colleagues by ensuring that positions of leadership were awarded based on the professional qualifications of both male and female candidates equally. Eventually, she served as President of the Alabama Division (1948-50) and Vice President of the Southeast Central Region, gaining thereby a nationwide reputation.

Dr. Vickery also maintained a lifelong commitment to mental health. She played an active role in the Alabama Mental Health Association from its earliest days and saw it grown into an important force in shaping policy. After her retirement, she dedicated herself to researching the mental health field in Alabama. Her research culminated in the publishing of her book, *A History of Mental Health in Alabama*, in 1972. This work is said to have charted a course in the mental health field, which placed the state among the leaders in the nation in the development of programs and facilities for the mentally handicapped.

The Pioneer biographies are used courtesy of NASW Foundation and can be found at
<http://www.naswfoundation.org/pioneer.asp>