**School Social Work Week Celebration Activities:**

**Here are some suggestions for how you can promote and celebrate School Social Work (SSW) Week:**

* **Write a Letter to the Editor:** 

In a  Letter to the Editor to the Connecticut  *The Courant* in December 2013, Stephen A. Karp,  the Executive Director of the National Association of Social Work (NASW) -CT, specifically noted the status and need for School Social Workers in the state of Connecticut.  As you know, the recommended ratio for school social workers by the School Social Work Association of America as well as NASW is 1 to 250.  As we get ready for School Social Work Week, **take a look and consider writing your own version of a Letter to the Editor** with relevant local data for your state/municipality.     [**Read more.**](http://www.courant.com/news/opinion/letters/hcrs-18065--20131227%2C0%2C153969.story)

* Sponsor a breakfast at your school thanking staff for their support
* Exchange "secret SSW" gifts with other SSW for the week and have a get together on Friday to celebrate
* Write a short description of school social work for local paper acknowledging SSW week
* Write an article for the district/school newspaper or newsletter.
* Offer to present at a faculty meeting on topics you are familiar with such as mental health issues, bullying, suicide prevention, substance abuse, mandated reporting,
* Send yourself flowers, or better yet, have someone else send flowers!
* Have principal acknowledge your contribution during staff meeting
* Send dates to your local union to include in calendar
* Make a sign for the teachers’ lounge
* Have students make cards/posters about SSW
* Have Superintendent/School Board recognize the important role of district school social workers at a School Board Meeting
* Present to the school board acknowledging SSW week and your job (bring statistics and a powerpoint)
* Organize for all school social workers get together after school
* Send thank you notes to the other SSW in your district
* Send a thank you email to other SSW
* Develop and distribute School Social Worker Brochure regarding your services for teachers, administrators, and/or parents
* Send a thank you for your support email to teachers and the principal
* Provide small item and note in teacher's mailbox thanking them for their support
* Contact special education director/district level supervisor to thank them for supporting your work
* Dress up (professionally) the whole week or one day to celebrate SSW Week
* Bring in a dessert for lunch to share with staff.
* Wear a silly hat all week
* Host an "Open House" in your office so staff can see what you do!
* Present at a staff meeting about your job/statistics etc
* Have a party for the students you see to thank them for being great kids to work with

Smile all week and remember your work is important and valuable, THANK YOU!!!