The North Dakota Conference of Social Welfare (NDCSW) was formed in 1920 by a group of individuals who were interested in starting a broad based organization that would speak out effectively and strongly on behalf of North Dakota’s children and it’s underprivileged. The conference has been instrumental throughout the years in spearheading legislation, serving as an advocate for the disadvantaged, and conducting training programs/conferences for individuals and groups involved in social welfare issues. During its existence, the conference has reflected many social needs of North Dakotans, such as recognition of the financial needs of destitute citizens, identifying the needs of returning veterans, displaced persons, institutionalized patients, and advocating for the safety, permanence and well-being of children and families.

Over the years the focus of the NDCSW has gradually evolved from a social action organization to one that emphasizes training and coordination. The Conference has sponsored workshops, training courses and large conferences for all segments of the social welfare system and has been instrumental in bringing associated professions together for joint conferences and workshops.

The Conference has had a long and exciting history. It has been instrumental in shaping the structure of the North Dakota social welfare system. It has served as a focal point whereby all persons concerned with social welfare can meet, share ideas, and advocate for the needs of children and disadvantaged adults. NDCSW has always been and will continue to be a powerful vehicle for people helping people.

MISSION STATEMENT
To improve the life for all in North Dakota by advocating for the underprivileged, being a leader in social welfare issues, and a force in social welfare reform.

PURPOSE
- Afford an opportunity for those interested in social welfare to discuss needs, methods, principles and activities of their profession;
- Gather and disseminate appropriate information concerning social welfare;
- Actively engage in non-partisan legislation and make the intent known to the people and legislature;
- Promote active cooperation between all agencies and institutions – public and private, religious and secular-engaged in social welfare in this state; and
- Advance for a high standard of social service programs for the citizenry of North Dakota.

Each year the Conference selects students for up to a $500 scholarship. The scholarships are awarded at the annual conference, which is held in September each year. The scholarship selection is based on the students written essay of 1000 words or less about a social welfare issue, how they plan to address the issue, their professional goals, and what information about NDCSW interests them. Students may access the NDCSW website at www.ndcsw.org for information on the organization and its committees. Scholarship recipients may attend the fall conference to be held in Dickinson in September to receive their award. Deadline for submission of this scholarship is May 31st, 2016. Applications can be mailed to Amanda Wallace at Renville County Social Services PO Box 305 Mohall, ND 58761 or e-mailed to awallace@nd.gov.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this scholarship opportunity. We hope to hear from you in the future.
NAME______________________________________________________________

ADDRESS__________________________________________________________________________

CITY AND STATE________________________________________________________________________

PHONE ___________________________EMAIL__________________________________________

COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY____________________YEAR in school ____________________

FIELD OF STUDY(S)___________________________________________________________________

PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS_________________________________________________________________

In 1000 words or less describe:
1) A social welfare issue that is important to you.
2) How do you plan to address this issue as a student and future professional.
3) Your goals for your professional career as they relate to social welfare issues.
4) What information on the NDCSW website most interested you to make application for this scholarship.

Information about the NDCSW can be found on their website at www.ndcsw.org

Please attach additional pages to complete your essay.

Once completed mail or e-mail to Amanda Wallace, Renville County Social Services
PO Box 305
Mohall, ND 58761
awallace@nd.gov