



2005 | Social Work Congress

A Coming Together of the Profession

Social Work Imperatives for the Next Decade

- Assure excellence in aging knowledge, skills, and competencies at all levels of social work education, practice, and research.
- Participate in politics and policy where major decisions are being made about behavioral health.
- Assure a qualified social work labor force to serve children.
- Take the lead in advocating for quality universal healthcare.
- Elevate the public's awareness of the efficacy and cost-effectiveness of social work practice in healthcare.
- Address the impact of racism, other forms of oppression, social injustice, and other human rights violations through social work education and practice.
- Increase the value proposition of social work by raising standards and increasing academic rigor of social work education programs.
- Mobilize the social work profession to actively engage in politics, policy, and social action, emphasizing the strategic use of power.
- Continuously acknowledge, recognize, confront, and address pervasive racism within social work practice at the individual, agency, and institutional levels.
- Strengthen social work's ability to influence the corporate and political landscape at the federal, state, and local levels.
- Promote culturally competent social work interventions and research methodologies in the areas of social justice, well-being, and cost-benefit outcomes.
- Connect research and practice through partnerships among researchers, the field, and communities.

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