

The Indiana Social Work Strategic Initiative (SWSI)

Goals and Feedback Form

The Indiana Chapter has established seven goals that support the Strategic Initiative in social work in our state. Each goal is supported by some specific strategies. These goals and strategies were developed with the input of the Board of Directors, Past President and the membership through various methods and opportunities. Since this is a living document, the Board of Directors will continue to solicit on-going feedback from the membership and update the goals accordingly.

Please take a moment and give us your feedback on each of the goals.

The following was designed so that those reviewing the NASW-IN Chapter's Social Work Strategic Initiative (ISWSI) could provide feedback.

Email, fax or mail the completed form to: naswin@naswin.org; (317) 925-9364; NASW-IN Chapter, 1100 W. 42nd Street, Suite 226, Indianapolis, IN 46208

Goal 1: To Promote Licensing for all levels of Social Workers and advocate for licensing regulations that are inclusive of varying levels of education and practical experience.

Proposed Strategies:

Advocate for a change in the current law to create a licensure status for BSW graduates (for example a LBSW) using a basic test that assesses their level of education and skills and allows them recognition as a "social worker" at the basic, generalist level.

Clarify rules and procedures regarding the supervision of LCSW candidates including requirements for training in clinical supervision.

Review current licensure rules and regulations to assure that BSW's and MSW's apply for the appropriate level of license.

Articulate benefits of different levels of licensure qualifications.

Assess feasibility of requiring or linking membership in NASW as part of licensure.

Please provide additional suggestions, strategies or comments:

Goal 2: To advocate for loan forgiveness legislation for social workers in Indiana and at the National level.

Proposed Strategies:

Promote a loan forgiveness program for social workers entering the field in positions in children's services including foster care, child welfare, early childhood mental health, residential care, etc., where there is an anticipated critical shortage.

Promote a loan forgiveness program for social workers entering positions in the aging field including assisted living, home health, end of life care, etc., where there is an anticipated critical shortage.

Promote a loan forgiveness program to encourage social workers to enter positions in rural communities.

Advocate for social workers to receive loan forgiveness in an amount equal to their volunteer hours.

Advocate for need of social workers to receive loan forgiveness.

Participate in and support NASW national strategies regarding loan forgiveness for social workers.

Partner with Indiana social work education programs to solicit private foundations/initiatives to support the development of leaders in the social work profession.

Require terms of employment and residency in Indiana to receive loan forgiveness.

Please provide additional suggestions, strategies or comments:

Goal 3: To advocate for reimbursement of services provided by LCSW from Indiana Medicaid.

Proposed Strategies:

Advocate for appropriate legislation to support parity for social workers.

Encourage social workers to participate on insurance company and managed health care organization panels.

Support administrative policy that recognizes social work services as reimbursable by Medicaid and other insurance providers, including services provided via tele-health, home-based, etc.

Educate the public and legislators about social work roles to gain credibility as a profession.

Please provide additional suggestions, strategies or comments:

Goal 4: To increase outreach to active members, promote awareness among students and social workers of varying backgrounds about the benefits of membership and opportunities available in the social work profession.

Proposed Strategies:

Collaborate with Indiana programs and schools of social work to promote social work as a meaningful career as students make choices about formal education.

Promote positive image of the social work profession.

Recruit students at an early age to help diversify the workforce (specifically gender and minority recruits).
Encourage social workers to volunteer to speak to students about the career opportunities of social workers.

Educate school guidance counselors and others who influence students toward careers about the social work profession.

Please provide additional suggestions, strategies or comments:

Goal 5: To have available tools, resources, and education that will support and encourage social workers to be involved in the political process.

Proposed Strategies:

Encourage and support social workers to run for political office.

Encourage NASW members and leadership to participate in the various programs, coalitions, methods and advocacy efforts to address complex societal problems and issues.

Educate and encourage NASW members to participate in legislative advocacy efforts.

Please provide additional suggestions, strategies or comments:

Goal 6: To provide a clear social justice/political action message that will support and encourage social workers to be involved in the political process.

Proposed Strategies:

Work with NASW National office to have policy statements more accessible to the membership.

Promoting LEAD as a way for Social Workers to be actively involved in the political process.

Identifying webinars that membership can participate in specifically relating policy practice and legislative advocacy.

Update the advocacy web page more regularly, provide policy statements, and make the information more accessible via the web.

Please provide additional suggestions, strategies or comments:

Goal 7: To advocate for Social Work positions, educate employers in Indiana about the skill sets and competencies of social workers, and how professional social workers can enhance their organizations and work environments.

Proposed Strategies:

Form strategic alliances with professional organizations and agencies that support, educate, and employ social workers.

Standardize position qualifications and requirements for health and human services agencies (private and public) to hire qualified, professional, licensed social workers.

Advocate for employers to require the appropriate level of licensure relative to the position requirements.

Advocate for schools and school systems to hire qualified, licensed social workers.

Advocate for criminal justice programs to hire qualified, licensed social workers.

Compile statewide salary information. Compare Indiana's salaries to surrounding states.

Advocate for the social work profession by informing agency directors, human resource departments, etc. that social workers are those with a social work education and licensure. Individuals with other degrees working in a social service position are not social workers.

Please provide additional suggestions, strategies or comments:

Please list 3 goals in the order of importance to you. Example: 3, 7, 5
